

The Middlebury Campus

SEPTEMBER 20, 2012 | VOL. 111 NO. 2 | MIDDLEBURYCAMPUS.COM

New rules change election process

By Nate Sans

On Sept. 8, the Student Government Association (SGA) passed the Election Bylaws Reform Act, which updated regulations for students running for SGA offices. The act includes a change allowing candidates to campaign through the voting period — a technicality that caused disqualifications in past SGA races. The goal of the act is to streamline the election process by allowing candidates more freedom in their campaigning by permitting campaigning during the signature-gathering and voting phases of their candidacy. The act also outlines a clear process for adjudicating campaign rules violations.

SGA Press Secretary Olivia Noble '13 described how the new rules will make the election process more fair for all candidates.

"Before there were arbitrary rules that people either didn't understand or didn't read," said Noble. "That was the reason why people got disqualified, but it shouldn't be like that."

Previous legislation barred candidates from campaigning except within the specific time period between collecting signatures to petition for entry into the race and before the voting period began. This meant that candidates were only able to tell people signing their petitions that they hoped to run and were not allowed to go into detail about their platforms.

The new act allows campaigning to begin during the time in which candidates are petitioning for signatures. The new rules also require that candidates who are running for class-specific offices get signatures from members of the class they would be representing — e.g. only juniors may sign the petition of a student running for Junior Senator.

According to Noble, election reform has long been a priority for SGA President Charlie Arnowitz.

itz '13 — he and current Chief of Staff Anna Esten '13 also wrote the Arnowitz-Esten Fair Elections Act of 2011.

"[Arnowitz] and [Esten] wrote an elections reform in the spring of 2010 to modernize elections," said Noble. "They always intended to update them later on."

Esten explains that the Fair Elections Act of 2011, which addressed all-campus email privileges, was never meant to be a permanent solution to the problems the SGA was having with elections.

The Fair Elections Act was a short term solution to a very specific problem," said Esten. "Quite simply, the elections bylaws were out of touch with the way Middlebury functions today ... We kept the vast majority of the rules that existed intact."

Esten explained that when the Fair Elections Act was written, the SGA had to read over many of the rules for elections that had previously been ignored. In doing this, rules such as the restrictions on the campaigning timeframe started to be enforced.

"That was the primary reason that President Arnowitz and I rewrote the bylaws this summer," said Esten. "It was extremely unfortunate that students that cared enough about Middlebury to run for election were being regularly disqualified because of a rule that seemed arbitrary."

Before the Arnowitz-Esten Act, the most recent changes to campaign rules were made in 2002. Noble said that the ongoing goal of the Arnowitz-Esten Act and the new Election Bylaws Reform Act is to update the rules to accommodate use of the internet and to remove confusing complications that caused disqualifications.

The changes to rules come in the wake of controversy caused by the disqualification of several can-

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THE NEXT STEP



Associate Dean of Students for Residential and Student Life Policy Doug Adams helps Annie Mejias '13 prepare for the job application process during "Resumania" at the Education in Action (EIA) center.

PHOTO BY JESSICA MUNYON

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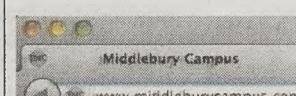
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INTRODUCING THE NEW

MIDDLEBURYCAMPUS.COM

The Mi



Looking Back on Irene's Anniversary

By MELISSA LARSON / STAFF WRITER

We've rebuilt our website from the ground up.

Our content is now easier to access, search, share and comment on.

You'll also find the brand-new Campus Current, our blog dedicated to covering breaking news.

STARTING THIS FRIDAY

Middlebury is seventh in new ranking

By Paul Warnke

The Alumni Factor, a new college ranking publication, unveiled its first college and university ranking earlier this month, slotting Middlebury College in 7th place. Unlike other ranking lists, the Alumni Factor uses quantifiable financial data gleaned from alumni surveys. By using alternative criteria, the ranking has aimed to arm prospective students and their parents with a new way to evaluate schools during the college search.

The Alumni Factor's list of top schools stands apart from other "Top 10" lists because it features colleges and universities that rarely appear in the upper echelon of more traditional college ranking publications.

Middlebury College, which shares 4th place with Pomona College in the most recent U.S. News National Liberal Arts Col-

lege Ranking and 42nd in *Forbes'* list, holds the 7th spot in The Alumni Factor's debut list — just ahead of the United States Naval Academy and behind the University of Notre Dame.

After receiving alumni reviews from former students at over 450 colleges and universities, the Alumni Factor whittled down the results to compile a list of the top 177 Top Colleges and Universities.

While *U.S. News and World Report* separates liberal arts colleges and universities into two lists, the Alumni Factor groups schools into one all-inclusive ranking. Alternatively, the *Princeton Review* puts forward no composite ranking, but offers 62 top 20 lists on institution's specific traits, such as quality of life, social scene and region.

Opinions are mixed on the most appropriate methodology

"ALUMNI FACTOR"
COLLEGE RANKINGS

1. WASHINGTON & LEE
2. YALE
3. PRINCETON
4. RICE
5. HOLY CROSS
6. NOTRE DAME
7. MIDDLEBURY

"I prefer the approach of *Princeton Review* and *U.S. News* in this case where they rank the schools within categories," said Becky Castle '91, who served as the president of the College Alumni Association from 2000-2002.

"I'm not really sure that comparing a small liberal college to a state university with 40,000 students makes a lot of sense."

Chelsea Guster '11, a more recently graduated Middlebury alumna, believes that each ranking methodology fits into its own niche within the college shopping market.

"I think for those who are set SEE NEW, PAGE 3

Two candidates run for SCOCC

By Bronwyn Oatley

Two seniors — Kathryn Benson '13 and Barrett Smith '13 — will run for Student Co-Chair of Community Council (SCOCC) in the wake of the resignation of Luke Carroll-Brown '13.5 from the position in late August.

The elections, which will take place on Sept. 24, will determine the student who will serve as co-chair of the council alongside Dean of the College Shirley Collado.

In this role, the elected representative will preside over a council of elected and assigned students, faculty and staff. The student co-chair helps to fulfill the organization's dual role within the college governance structure as both an advisory body to President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz and as a body with the

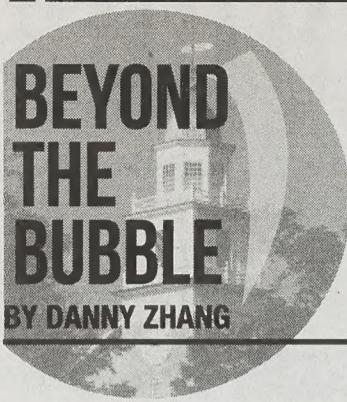
power to appoint members to select committees.

The student co-chair also serves as a voting member of the Senate and assumes the role of the interim Student Government Association president in the event that the elected student is unable to fulfill the role, as with the resignation of last year's SGA President Riley O'Rourke '12.

According to SGA President Charlie Arnowitz '13, a re-election was necessitated by the resignation of Carroll-Brown after he secured a semester-long internship at the White House in Washington, D.C.

"I will be stepping down from my position as Student Co-Chair of Community Council in order to pursue an internship this fall," wrote Carroll-Brown in an

SEE SCOCC, PAGE 4



During the last two weeks, curious netizens and concerned citizens in China speculated about the fate of that country's presumptive president-in-waiting, as he failed to make a public appearance for 14 straight days.

Xi Jinping, aged 59, is currently China's Vice President. He is set to take the reins of national leadership from current Communist Party Secretary General Hu Jintao in the upcoming Party Congress. Sometime in the next two years, Xi will also assume the titles of President of China and Chairman of the Central Military Commission.

His rising profile in the world's most populous nation in a year of tumultuous internal and external challenges made his disappearance from public view all the more intriguing and tense. Xi was photographed delivering a speech to a meeting of cadres from the Communist Party School on Sept. 1.

In the following week, Xi was scheduled to meet with several foreign dignitaries, including U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, and the prime ministers of Singapore and Denmark. The Chinese government canceled each of those meetings, giving no official explanation.

The absence of an official statement set the rumor mills in motion. Many claimed that Xi had injured his back while playing sports. Yet, some suggested more serious health issues, like a heart attack or a stroke, as the explanation. Others, in more flamboyant stories, speculated unresolved political disputes, with one wild proposition even suggesting that Xi was involved in an assassination attempt by car crash.

The Chinese government, in attempt to control the spread of such rumors, clenched its fists of censorship, deleting search engine results of the president-in-waiting's name and even "back injury."

This curious event occurred in a year that has been anything but the smooth generational transition it was supposed to be for the Chinese Community Party. In March of this year, the party purged one of its popular rising stars, Bo Xilai, from power after his deputy sneaked into the American consulate in Chengdu, claiming to possess evidence of his boss' gross corruption and fearing for his own life.

Bo's wife was later tried and convicted for poisoning a British businessman in Nov. 2011 with whom the family had close ties. The high-profile firing of Bo exposed to the Chinese people, in a very public and embarrassing way, to the corrupt and nepotistic nature of party politics. This incident was also said to have reflected internal party infighting between factions who were competing for power in the leadership transition.

Furthermore, the growth of the Chinese economy has shown signs of slowing down in recent months. On the foreign policy front, China is facing off against Japan in a bitter sovereignty dispute over the Senkaku Islands in the East China Sea.

Against this tumultuous political backdrop, Xi made his first public appearance in two weeks last Saturday. State media reported on his visit to a university campus in Beijing, without reference to his public absence over the prior two weeks. The presumptive president seemed to be in fine health.

However, Xi's reappearance did little to quell the wariness of many who are closely following the leadership transition. They cite the list of contentious political events this year as signs of increasing fissures within China's ruling party and are concerned about the potential consequences of a shaky transition on the country's internal stability and external policies.

Disqualifications less likely with new rules

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

candidates for the position of the President of the SGA. The Campus reported in October 2011 that SGA presidential candidate Mugo Mutothori '12 was disqualified from the SGA presidential election because he solicited votes after the end of the designated campaigning period.

In this particular incident, Mutothori was accused of sending text messages and an email to supporters encouraging them to vote after the voting period had already begun and after the campaign period had ended.

Mutothori was one of five candidates in a two-round election and received the second-most votes of any candidate behind eventual winner Vin Recca '12. Mutothori declined to comment on the changes to the election rules.

If Aganga '13 was also disqualified from an SGA presidential race for failing to follow campaigning rules. In April 2012 Aganga was dismissed from his position as Junior Senator, and in an interview with the Campus made comments relating to his impending presidential campaign before the official campaigning period had begun.

Aganga was quoted as saying, "I believe I am the perfect candidate to finally free the student government from the iron grip of easy and complacent decisions. I plan to kick-start this government, taking the reins of what I know can be a powerful force for good."

These statements, construed as early campaigning by the SGA, led to his disqualification from the race.

"I hope that this change ... means that future elections are about issues important to the student body instead of about who put signs up on which day."

ZACH DALLMEYER-DRENNEN '14

qualification from the race. Aganga did not respond to a request for comment on the changes to the election rules.

Noble noted that under the new rules neither Mutothori and Aganga would have been disqualified from their campaigns.

The act calls for an Elections Council to be formed, which will have two student senators and four other students. The council will examine rules violations and make a recommendation to the Senate whether or not a candidate should be disqualified. The Senate then must decide by a two-thirds majority to disqualify the candidate.

The new rules were met with approval by Zach Dallmeyer-Drennen '14, who wrote a May 2011 column for the Campus criticizing the decision to disqualify Aganga, calling the disqualification "patently absurd" and stating "the law must be changed."

"I'm glad that [President] Arnowitz was so quick to follow through with his campaign promise to simplify the overly restrictive election law that had made elections a frustrating process for students over the past couple of years," wrote Dallmeyer-Drennen in an email. "I hope that this change ... means that future elections are about the issues important to the student body instead of about who put signs up on which day."

The act not only affects the candidates running for offices, but also students voting in the elections. Under the new act, students are not allowed to coerce voting by sharing an internet-enabled device or willfully observe other students voting.

LIS launches new site archiving College history

By Kelsey Collins

Over the summer, the Library and Information Services (LIS) launched Middlebury History Online, a digital archive of documents specifically related to the history of the College.

The online archive has been over six years in the making. The project originated in 2005 as a proposal by Judith Tichenor Fulkerson '56, who made a donation to underwrite the digitization of key materials related to the history of the College from its founding in 1800. The donation was Fulkerson's 50th reunion gift to the College.

The documents in the online archive include manuscript letters, journals and diaries, as well as books, journals and photographs that pertain to the College's founders, presidents, alumni and students. The records chronicle the formulation of the College's educational vision over the years, the construction of the campus, the lives of some of the key figures in the College's history and the College's relationship with town and state entities.

The process of building this online resource has involved the digitization of primary source materials currently in the possession of Special Collections, as well as actively reaching out to other people and institutions and trying to bring back some of the materials that have been carried away from the College over time through the digitization process.

Andy Wentink, curator of Special Collections & Archives in Library and Information Services, has been spearheading this project since Fulkerson approached the College in 2005.

"The donor was extremely visionary, I believe, in seeing that we shouldn't just be restricted to what the College was fortunate to have, but to reach out through

a collaborative process and work with other institutions," said Wentink. "I think [the College's] archive will really stand out because of how aggressively proactive we are being in gathering materials."

Special Collections has particularly made an effort in this project to digitize documents that other institutions physically own so that people within the college community may avail themselves to these resources. Some of these other institutions are local – such as the University of Vermont, the Vermont Historical Society and the Shelburne Museum – while some materials physically reside in locations as far-flung as the University of Michigan.

While the development of Middlebury History Online has been ongoing since 2005, the project has seen a push within LIS over the past year.

"In the last year, we've had a big burst of activity that finally brought it to this stage where we can finally unveil it, and that is primarily due to the appointment of our new collections librarian, Rebekah Irwin," said Wentink. "She basically brought in all of the collection management staff – cataloguers, acquisition people – to support Middlebury History Online and to help us move forward to the point where it is now. I would say that was the burst of energy that we needed."

In addition to the LIS staff, student labor has contributed to much of the archiving.

"If you ever wanted to trace the development of the College, if you wanted to know how Middlebury came to be Middlebury, this would be a very good place to start," said William Guida '12.5, one of the student research associates in LIS, of the new resource.

Farm stand sells locally grown food

By Emma Eastwood-Paticcio

MiddFarmstand, an online farmer's market offering produce from local farms, opened for faculty and staff this past summer. The coordinators are now looking into expanding the service to students.

The program is a branch of yourfarmstand.com, which originated in Charlotte, Vt. in 2010 and has now expanded to over a dozen markets, benefitting both the producers and the consumers in communities across Vermont.

Market Coordinator Greg Krathwohl '14 and Francisa Drexel, academic coordinator for film and media and market manager, were the primary organizers of the market at the College, which takes place in the café at the Kevin P. Mahaney '84 Center for the Arts (CFA) every Tuesday from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.

The service is simple and effective, according to staff. Once a user has signed up on yourfarmstand.com and selected the Middlebury market, they can put money into their account via check or PayPal, browse the categories of produce available that week and add items to their cart. On Tuesday, the staff or faculty member picks up their order at the CFA. There are no lines, and the experience is often supplemented with free samples, while customers catch up with colleagues.

"The market is a great idea, very well organized and in a lovely setting," said Bill Beaney, golf and hockey coach.

The market also features over twenty producers and provides a wide variety of products to consumers. Meat, eggs, pies as well as freshly picked fruits and vegetables are all available for purchase.

Ioana Uricaru, assistant professor of film & media culture, shared Beaney's enthusiasm.

"I just moved here from LA, and I'm very happy to be able to get fresh food," said Beaney. "The radishes look great, and the pie is beautiful and enormous."

The presence of different types of produce also ensures that the suppliers are not competing with each other, but are instead working together to draw in more business and more interest in buying locally. This past Tuesday, every producer had orders, making the service worthwhile to everyone.

New Market Coordinator Kathryn Benson '13 pointed out the benefits the online market gives to the farmers as well as the community.

"Producers know it's a guaranteed sell, so they don't have to pay a worker to wait at a farmer's market where they can't always sell all their produce," said Benson.

According to Drexel, Students interested in joining MiddFarmstand will have to wait a little longer in order for the plan to be approved by the President's Office.

"We must first make sure that there isn't a complication with those students who've enrolled in the College's meal plan," she said.

Drexel will soon meet with other department heads to discuss the initiative.

Students interested in the service can follow MiddFarmstand on Facebook to stay apprised of announcements.

MCAB's WHAT'S HAPPENING AT MIDDLEBURY?

Outdoor Concert ▶

Vermont Joy Parade at Meeker house front lawn
FRIDAY AT 9:30 P.M.



Outdoor Concert

Miniature Tigers at McCullough Lawn
SATURDAY AT 7 P.M.

Zumba

Come dance the calories away at McCullough Social Space.
SUNDAY AT 4 P.M.

New college ranking asks for alumni opinions

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

on a particular region, size or aesthetic of school, the *Princeton Review* and *U.S. News* approach of dividing rankings by traits is very effective," said Guster. "However, for those who may be asking, 'Isn't Pomona just like a NESCAC, but stuck out West?' the Alumni Factor's approach seems to be more useful."

Another point of contention with respect to college ranking platforms is the source of the data. The *U.S. News* ranking uses surveys completed by administrators at peer institutions and high school counselors at select public and private schools in appraising a college or university. *Princeton Review*, in contrast, relies heavily on student surveys. As the Alumni Factor's name indicates, alumni surveys form the basis of the new list's rankings.

Unlike *Princeton Review* and *U.S. News*, The Alumni Factor operates independently of college and university bureaucracies, surveying alumni without the help of administrative contacts. Alumni respondents are asked to answer 30 different questions concerning their college experience and respond to 20 statements about relevant political and

social issues.

Their answers, in combination with their financial information, create the institution's "score" in 15 diverse categories, such as average income of graduate households, preparation for career success and overall happiness of graduates.

"Graduates can offer a valuable perspective on the college experience, because they assuredly had one at that school," said Guster. "However, as each person inevitably evaluates his or her experience differently, it would be slightly more difficult to know what type of information I was receiving from a ranking platform that worked solely from alumni feedback."

By drawing attention to the financial status of college graduates, The Alumni Factor aims to provide a quantifiable perspective on the financial return on a college education. In a time of economic recession, this perspective has proved appealing to some parents and students.

"As much as I value learning for the sake of learning and the liberal arts approach, financial standing of graduates is a real consideration given the cost of higher education and the debt burden that people take on," said Castle.

Current student Elizabeth Fouhey '14

however, takes an alternate stance on the issue.

"It is hard to place judgment on a school based on how much money someone makes after college," said Fouhey. "There are very financially successful people who have gone to low-ranked schools, and there are also people who go to places like Middlebury whose financial situation after college is not as good."

The different reviews weigh certain attributes differently while ranking schools. *U.S. News* weights its factors according to their view of what is most important in selecting a college; for instance, it devotes 22.5 percent of a college's composite score to academic reputation. *Princeton Review* in contrast, breaks down each category into its own self-contained list.

The Alumni Factor uses a different methodology still, weighing its 15 attributes equally. However, the new ranking site uniquely offers a special feature aimed at accommodating the personal tastes of its readers. "Match Me To U" gives users the ability to weigh factors that they deem to be the most relevant. The feature's final product is a custom-made list of top colleges and universities.

"The validity of each approach is really subjective depending on the user's interests and priorities," said Castle.

OVERSEAS BRIEFING

BY MOHAN FITZGERALD '14

Galway, Ireland

My bags imprudently overstuffed and my back frequently overburdened, I spent a 13-hour travel experience wondering whether carrying-on my raincoat was truly necessary. I allude to the rather awkward task of confronting a reality that you've only ever conceived of as a casual collection of stereotypes: Ireland.

Let me do the legwork for you: Guinness, zealous binge drinking, rolling green hills, gingers and ... rain. Needless to say, I felt altogether touristy, and frankly embarrassed, cramming my brown raincoat into a bag already bursting with plane-ride comforts and entertainables (most of which went unused — turns out I hadn't seen *The Hunger Games* yet and couldn't tear my eyes away from what will likely be my only opportunity to see children nonchalantly killing each other in the name of good sport).

Anyway, it was raining buckets when I got to Dublin Airport. Score one for Mohan. It was still raining after a two-hour bus ride to Galway, the town from which I am humbly submitting the present column. Moreover, the entire ride was through a rolling and verdant landscape lined with charming stone fences and peppered with frolicking redheaded children (just kidding about the redheads — but you get the idea). And, to spite the kind folks at Public Safety, I should mention also that my twenty-year-old stomach has never encountered Guinness in such flowing abundance. From a conversation I had with some keen young gentlemen from Donegal, an Irish town known for its distinctive accent, I've gathered that rumors of excessive drinking also appear to be valid — for first-years, at the very least. Indeed, the local police chief was actually given the podium during "Visiting Student Orientation" in order to caution the 600-person crowd that trying to keep up with the locals would only end in paralysis or incarceration. Duly noted, sir.

I don't mean to tell you that everything you've ever heard about Ireland is true, or even that you have a clear picture of what it's like (or that I've degenerated into a bumbling drunk). Visit the country if you get the chance — the people are incredibly witty, the food is not as bad as alleged and the landscape is singularly beautiful. Nor am I trying to say that stereotypes are true; even if they are, they are reductive to the point of misrepresentation.

But it rains every single day. No exceptions. Oddly enough, the people here don't even bother with raincoats most of the time. There is essentially a fine, pervasive mist at all times, and it's not terribly inconvenient. Not being entirely convinced of this, it wasn't until about the third day that I took a proper walk around Galway. Since then, it's been hard not to. My apartment is on a cobbled canal that runs through the center of town, and after it rains you can admire the ducks and swans through spider-webs illuminated by filtered raindrops — perfect circles that shine ubiquitously in the fences along the canal's edge. A giant cathedral towers stoically in the middle of town. Never mind getting lost on the narrow meandering streets, my biggest concern has been remembering to look right first when crossing them. Oh, and you know when you walk past a couple of people on the sidewalk and hear an amusingly brief segment of their conversation? I mostly just hear a jumble of -er's and -ar's and can't help laughing uncontrollably afterwards. I haven't made any friends yet.

Here's to not getting a Renault logo tragically and irreparably imprinted on my butt. Cheers.

MCAB announces FUN. for fall concert



COURTESY OF FUN. PRESS RELEASES

FUN. will perform at the College as MCAB's fall concert on Nov. 2. The group is currently on a Campus Consciousness Tour, which combines music and concerts with an educational focus on important LGBT and environmental issues.

By Katie Theiss

The Middlebury College Activities Board (MCAB) has announced that FUN. will perform as the fall concert on Friday, Nov. 2. FUN. will be visiting the College as part of its Campus Consciousness Tour, a tour originally started by Guster in 2006 that seeks to combine entertainment with education on important issues.

"FUN.'s Campus Consciousness Tour has both an entertainment and an educational side," explained MCAB Concert Committee Co-Chair Molly Sprague '13. "Students can not only enjoy music from one of the most popular bands today but can also learn about LGBTQ and environmental issues."

The MCAB Concert Committee was drawn to FUN. because of the band's widespread appeal.

"FUN.'s music spans several genres

including hip hop, rock, ballad and alternative, and has popular hits that make it an appealing concert across campus," said Nick Mallchok '14.5, MCAB concert committee co-chair. "After Guster was so well received last spring, we chose FUN. for the fall concert because it has a similar vibe. With light and lively music and a talented band, FUN. will be a great, high quality show."

Sprague and Mallchok stressed that they were looking for a musical group with a great instrumental band and upbeat music as opposed to a group with a "dance party" vibe.

FUN. will be teaming up with Ben and Jerry's and REVERB, an environmental non-profit organization that targets musicians and their fans and encourages them to take action toward a more sustainable future. Ben and Jerry's will be serving free samples at

the concert. FUN. has not yet released information about an opening act for the concert.

In addition to REVERB and Ben and Jerry's, student groups on campus that are associated with environmental and LGBTQ issues will also take part in the educational side of the concert by setting up informational tables at the concert in order to spread awareness and inform students and the public.

"The Campus Consciousness Tour ... is a good opportunity for student groups on campus to join in on the effort to spread campus awareness about some of the most important issues of today," explained Sprague.

Tickets become available to students on Sept. 24 and to the general public on Oct. 1. MCAB expects a sold out show and encourages students to get tickets as soon as they become available.

COLLEGE SHORTS

NEWS FROM ACROSS THE NATION
COMPILED BY KELSEY COLLINS

Penn State divvies up \$60 million fine

A 10-member task force has been appointed to come up with guidelines for how to distribute the record \$60 million fine that Penn State will pay in the wake of the Jerry Sandusky scandal, reported the NCAA on Tuesday. Penn State will pay \$12 million per year over five years into an endowment that will fund programs for the prevention, detection and treatment of child abuse. This \$60 million fine is part of a punishment imposed by the NCAA, which also included a four-year postseason ban and scholarship cuts. The fine is intended to punish the school for its failure to report Sandusky, the university's former football coach and a serial child predator, to authorities. The endowment will be managed by a 10-person committee that will set policy and select a third-party administrator to choose the nonprofit groups that will receive the money each year.

— ESPN.com

\$228 million given to black colleges across America

The Education Department is granting \$228 million to 97 historically black colleges and universities across the country. The five-year grants will go to schools in 19 different states, and are intended to help the recipients strengthen their academic resources, financial management systems, endowment-building capacities and expand their physical campuses. In addition, funds may be used for the purchase, rental or lease of scientific or laboratory equipment and the development of academic instruction in disciplines in which African Americans are underrepresented. The largest grants will go to Florida A&M University in Tallahassee, Fla.; Southern University and A&M College in Baton Rouge, La.; Jackson State University in Jackson, Miss.; and St. Philip's College in San Antonio. Those schools will receive more than \$5 million each.

— Huffington Post

UMass student arrested for theft and vandalism

A University of Massachusetts student was arrested this weekend after police say he broke into buildings on Amherst College's campus and allegedly stole two computers and spray-painted swastikas on the walls of the campus health center. Bradley Keigwin, 20, of North Falmouth, Mass., was charged with breaking and entering during the nighttime, larceny from a building and defacing property. Keigwin had been observed in the bushes outside the Keefe Health Center building at 12:12 a.m. after setting off an intrusion alarm and ran when spotted by police. He was apprehended in downtown Amherst a short time later after a foot pursuit by college police officers.

In a letter addressed to the UMass community, Chancellor Kumble Subbaswamy addressed the incident.

"While the break-in and theft are reprehensible, it is the painting of the swastikas that is most distressing," said Subbaswamy. "A swastika, which symbolizes anti-Semitism and other forms of extreme intolerance and hatred, has no place in any society that values and celebrates the many diverse forms of humanity."

— Huffington Post

SCOCC resignation calls for re-election

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

wrote Carroll-Brown in an email. "I submitted my temporary withdrawal forms to the Registrar on August 16th and plan on returning to Middlebury for [the] spring semester."

According to Dean of the College Shirley Collado, Carroll-Brown has worked with the SGA President and Elections Committee in order to ensure a smooth transition in his absence.

"I am really happy about the opportunity that Luke has this semester," Collado said. "I know that he really wanted to co-chair the Community Council — and I would have loved the opportunity to work with him — but I'm really supportive of his decision."

Arrnowitz echoed Collado's statements.

"Though I was really looking forward to working with Luke, I respect his decision," said Arrnowitz. "Both of the candidates [who have declared their intent to run for the co-chair position] are really active students — people I know to be strong leaders — and I think that either one would do a great job."

Both Benson and Smith have been active members of the college community, occupying myriad roles throughout their college careers.

Benson served as the co-chair of Ross Commons Council in her sophomore year, was the Junior Senator for the SGA in 2011 and also served as a student activities intern in 2012. This summer, Benson worked as the residential life and student life summer intern.

Smith has been a member of the Social Justice Coalition, has served as a teacher's assistant in the science department, and plays on the College Quidditch team.

For two months last fall, Smith also served as a First-Year Counselor in Stewart Hall, until he was fired from the position after having allowed a non-Middlebury College student to stay in his room for longer than is permitted by the college handbook.

In the ensuing debate about the appropriateness of both Smith's conduct and the administration's decision to remove him from his position, students, faculty and staff were incredibly vocal, creating a discussion that ignited the campus for weeks.

Though similar in their desire to act as a representative for all members of the college community, the two candidates differ markedly in platform goals.

"One of the central components of my platform will be trying to encourage great-

er collaboration between student organizations and academic departments," said Benson.

In her position as the student activities intern in 2011, Benson explained that she often received emails from professors lamenting not having been informed about student events in which they wished they could have participated.

"Community Council is all about having those types of conversations," she said. "It's about how students interact with faculty and staff and the town community."

According to Smith, if elected, he would seek to enact a social honor code, and also try to encourage a more representative democracy at the College.

"I want the students to be much more involved in their own governance," said Smith. "Most Middlebury students are just involved by voting every year, but in a community as small as ours, I think that each person can take on a much more vocal and active role in the political life of the

community."

Smith proposed trying to establish larger political bodies, such as all-school meetings, or larger assemblies, where students can gather to discuss the issues that affect everyone.

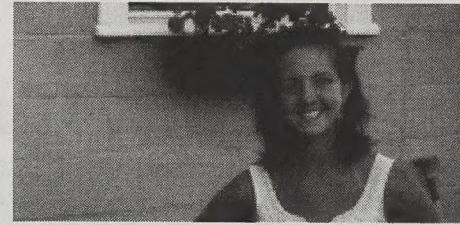
"I would like to work to create a much more democratic system, where every student has a lot more power than they have — or perceive to have — now," he said.

The two students will participate in an open debate on Sunday Sept. 23, with elections opening the following day at noon. Simultaneously, first-year students will also be given the opportunity to vote for their First-Year Senator. J Whelan '16, Hasher Nisar '16, Roy Wang '16 and Graham Shaw '16 will all run for the position.

Following the SCOCC election, the Community Council will resume its weekly meetings, which will be held for the remainder of the year on Monday afternoons at 4:30 p.m. in the Axinn Center at Starr Library. Meetings are open to all students.

KATHRYN BENSON '13

Mt. Vernon, WA



BARRETT SMITH '13

Indian Hill, OH



SPECIFIC GOALS FOR CC:

- Get coors on the walls of dorms
- Encourage Superblocks to host more events
- Seek to connect College and Town
- Set up a blog to solicit feedback from the community

INVOLVEMENT:

- Co-chair of Ross Commons council, 2010
- SGA Junior Class Senator, 2011
- Student Activities Intern, 2011
- Worked on Textbook bill, 2011

TO PROCRASTINATE I ...

Color-coordinate my closet

SPECIFIC GOALS FOR CC:

- Create larger assemblies for student participation in government
- Create a social honor code
- Encourage administration to become more accountable with respect to socially responsible investing as well as gender and social justice issues.

INVOLVEMENT:

- Member of the Social Justice Coalition, 2010-2012
- FYC, Fall 2011
- Science Dept. TA, 2010-2012
- Quidditch Team
- Free Skool, 2012
- Classics Epic Reading, 2011-2012

TO PROCRASTINATE I ...

Homebrew beer in my apartment

China, immigration symposia open on campus

By Kathryn DeSutter

Symposiums organized by the International Politics and Economics (IPE) Department and the Juntos Migrant Outreach student group open this week. The IPE department symposium, held Friday, Sept. 21, will address the transformation of China over the past 30 years and the implications and challenges of this transformation. "MyAmerica?," the Middlebury College Activites Board (MCAB) Fall Symposium, will explore the topic of immigration through a variety of events and programming.

Daniel Loehr '13.5, one of the student organizers of "MyAmerica?," hopes that the relevancy of the topic will draw in participants.

"Immigration is the issue of our generation," said Loehr. "It's an issue important for everyone in the U.S. — whether people are worried about the economy, social integration, education, etc., this issue is never going to go away."

The "MyAmerica?" symposium opened Wednesday with Hip Hop Theater — a performance starring Paul Flores, an artist specializing in hip hop and bilingual performance and an adjunct professor of theater at the University of San Francisco.

"MyAmerica?" continues today with speakers and workshops. At 12:30 p.m. in Carr Hall, there will be a spoken word

workshop. Dr. Robyn Rodriguez, scholar and international migration specialist, will give a talk at 4:30 p.m. in the Orchard room of the Franklin Environmental Center at Hillcrest. Rodriguez's talk is entitled "Neorealism and the Rescaling of American Citizenship." At 8 p.m. in Dana Auditorium, Pulitzer Prize-winning author Sonia Nazario will speak about her book, *Enrique's Journey*, and America's immigration dilemma.

Hannah Postel '13, another student organizer, explained that Nazario's talk will have direct connections to her audience.

"Apart from speaking about her life and what she has done, [Nazario] will talk about how to get involved," said Postel.

On Friday, there will be an art exhibit titled "Invisible Odysseys" on display from 7 p.m. until 9 p.m. in the M Gallery of the Old Stone Mill. The symposium concludes Saturday with a panel of immigration lawyers who will discuss "Human Rights Practices & Defending Immigrants." The discussion will begin at 12:30 p.m. in the Hillcrest Orchard.

On Friday Sept. 21, the International Politics and Economics (IPE) department will host a symposium entitled "From Deng to Dollars: the Political Economy of China's Rise." Talks and panel discussions will take place in the McCullough Student Center Social Space.

This is the IPE department's first an-

nual symposium. Participants were chosen by a committee of faculty from the political science and economics departments.

"We wanted to draw the campus's attention to the importance of international political economy in the contemporary era," said Professor of Political Science and IPE Department Chair Erik Bleich.

The symposium opens at 12 p.m., after a buffet lunch in the McCullough Gallery. The first panel, which begins at 12:15 p.m., will feature Harvard University Henry Ford II Professor of the Social Sciences Emeritus Ezra Vogel, who will speak about Deng Xiaoping's reforms. The second speaker, Yasheng Huang, an international program professor in Chinese economy and business at the MIT Sloan School of Management, will speak at 2 p.m. regarding China's economic model. The third panelist, Scott Rozelle, is a Helen F. Farnsworth senior fellow at the Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies at Stanford University. At 3:45 p.m., Rozelle will discuss the plausibility of painting China as a threat.

After breaking for dinner, the IPE symposium will conclude with a roundtable discussion featuring all three guest speakers at 7:15 p.m. in McCordell Bicentennial Hall Room 216.

The IPE symposium will also feature College faculty and student moderators.

Le Tour de Farms: local food, local fun

Promise of fresh food and scenic routes draws Vermonters and students alike



JOANNA LYONS

Two bikers participating in Le Tour de Farms explore a flower garden on one of many farm stops on their journey through the Vermont countryside.

By Liia Koiv-Haus

On Sept. 16, in Shoreham, Vt., 581 avid cyclists and foodies gathered for the 5th Annual Le Tour de Farms. Passionate about active lifestyles and local foods, it comes as no surprise that Vermonters host the popular "Tour de Farms" each year.

Le Tour de Farms is a cross between a farmer's market and a bike race. It involves farm-hopping via bike along Vermont's scenic roadways, while sampling locally-made cheddar cheese, maple syrup, apple cider, Cookie Love cookies and various fruits and veggies. Some of the farms also offer samples of dairy products and alcohol (wine at vineyard stops for those of age).

Le Tour de Farms was organized by the Addison County Relocalization Network (ACORN), Rural Vermont and the Vermont Bicycle & Pedestrian Coalition, the same three organizations that have successfully managed the event for the last five years. The event served as a fundraiser for these three organizations. The event received support from a variety of sponsors, including Earl's Cyclery & Fitness, City Market, Healthy Living, Cabot Creamery, Green Mountain Feeds, the Lodge at Otter Creek, Vermont Sun and

the Addison County Regional Planning Commission.

A number of local farms and establishments, including the Middlebury Natural Foods Co-op, Windfall Orchards and Champlain Orchards generously offered samples of their produce this year. These additions served to enhance the already festive atmosphere of the event, offering an opportunity for community members to become better acquainted with local farms.

"It really is about the farms," said Lea Calderon-Guthe '11.5, manager of ACORN. "It's a really great opportunity for [the farms] to get some free press to get people familiar with them and their products without really having to do anything except put out some products."

Each year the event starts and ends at the same place, and offers a choice between three routes, all of which are loops. This year the home base was the Shoreham Town Green in Shoreham, Vt. The town's views of Lake Champlain and plethora of apple orchards make it an ideal location for the event, which helped attract even more participants than in previous years.

The ride is comparable to the Burrito Mile, the milk mile or the beer mile,

similar events in which participants have a chance to indulge in massive quantities of delicious foods and beverages and then engage in vigorous exercise. In this case, participants in Le Tour de Farms were lucky enough to enjoy sumptuous Vermont produce and then burn off some extra calories.

However, what sets Le Tour de Farms apart from other races is its laidback, low-key vibe. It is a tour, not a race, so there are no prizes awarded for first place. Despite the 30-mile length option and the participation of seasoned triathletes, the emphasis of the event is on enjoying the atmosphere and having a chance to chat with friends and farmers.

People from all over New England and even Canada ventured to Shoreham last Sunday for Le Tour. It also attracted participants of all ages.

"What I found most amazing was the range in people who seemed to be attending," said participant Molly Hubbard '13. "It was clear that some of the participants were serious bikers, but it was also great to see people ranging from probably around age eight to at least 75 doing the bike ride as well."

Participants were offered a choice between a "family-friendly" five-mile walk/

bike route, a more challenging ten-mile ride, a 15-mile route for intermediate-level bikers and a 30-mile route for "expert" bikers. Those brave enough to bike the longer routes enjoyed the added benefit of being able to sample more local food. The rides were just \$28 for those who pre-registered or \$50 at the door for adults and \$13 when pre-registered and \$20 at the door for children.

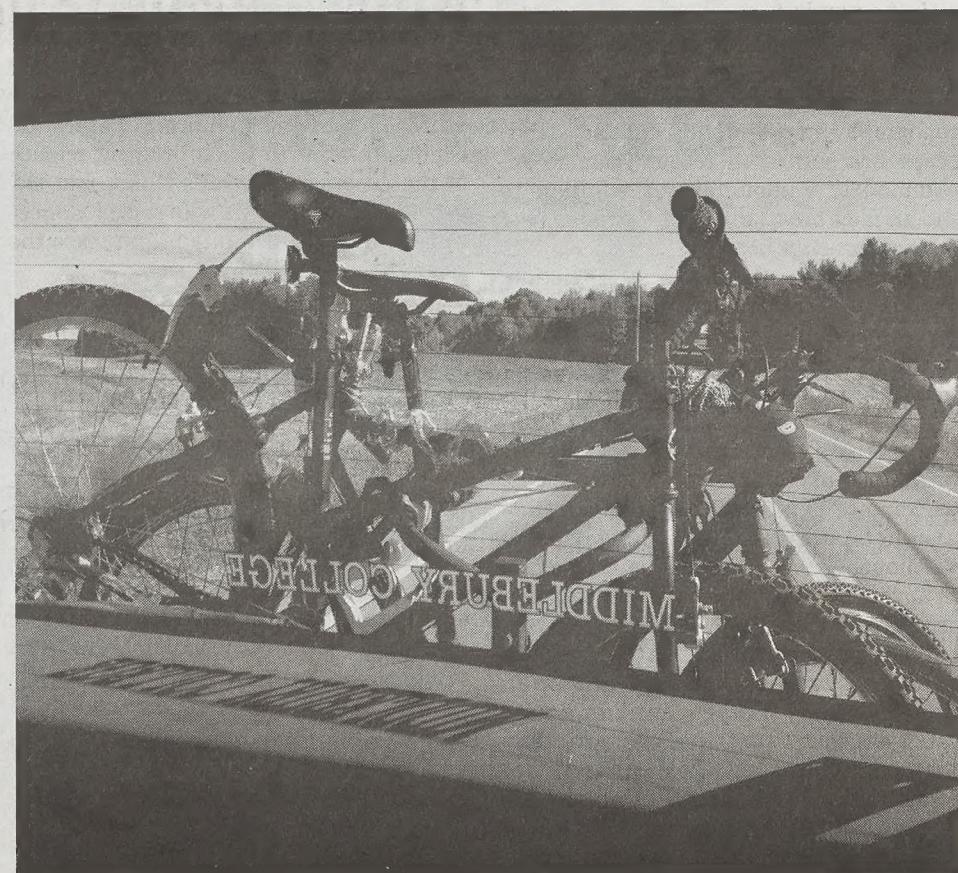
Most participants finished the race by noon, ending their journey with the "Apple Fest" on the Shoreham green, which featured live music, crafts and a farmers' market with even more local foods for sale from 12:30 to 5 p.m. All money raised at this après-bike event went to Shoreham's Platt Memorial Library.

Vermont biking is not for everyone — it is not all downhill pedaling. Some participants also had difficulty contending with the uneven Vermont roads. Jen Friedlander '13 reported that the "12 miles of gravel road [were] pretty frustrating." While food and fun were the central objectives, the exercise component, too, shaped the Le Tour de Farms experience.

"I will say that even though I am still sore it was probably one of my most memorable days I've had while at Middlebury," said Hubbard.



Bikers enjoyed hilltop views throughout their trek on the Le Tour de Farms circuit.



PHOTOS BY JOANNA LYONS
Two well-used bikes are retired to a rack after a long day of visiting farms.

Reality TV comes to local dealership

By Isaac Baker

After releasing films like *The Hunger Games* and *The Expendables 2* this summer, the Lionsgate production company has recently started filming an eight episode series called *Family Trade* about G Stone Motors, a car dealership on Route 7 just outside Middlebury, Vt.

The premise for the show centers around the longstanding trade-in policy that G Stone Motors has offered its clients since its inception nearly forty years ago. While many dealerships are happy to take an old car off one's hands, G Stone Motors goes a bit further, offering to take anything from an airplane to a pig as part of the transaction.

"I've always taken anything in trade," said Gardener Stone, president and founder of G Stone Motors. "I mean anything — anything that [can be sold]. I'll put a number on [it]. It's not a scam. I've done it my whole career."

Vestiges of these trades are visible all around the dealership and its parking lot: a jug of maple syrup by the entrance, an antique gas pump on the back wall, old trucks and campers sitting outside and a quark board filled with photos of pigs, cars and horses, all with pricetags.

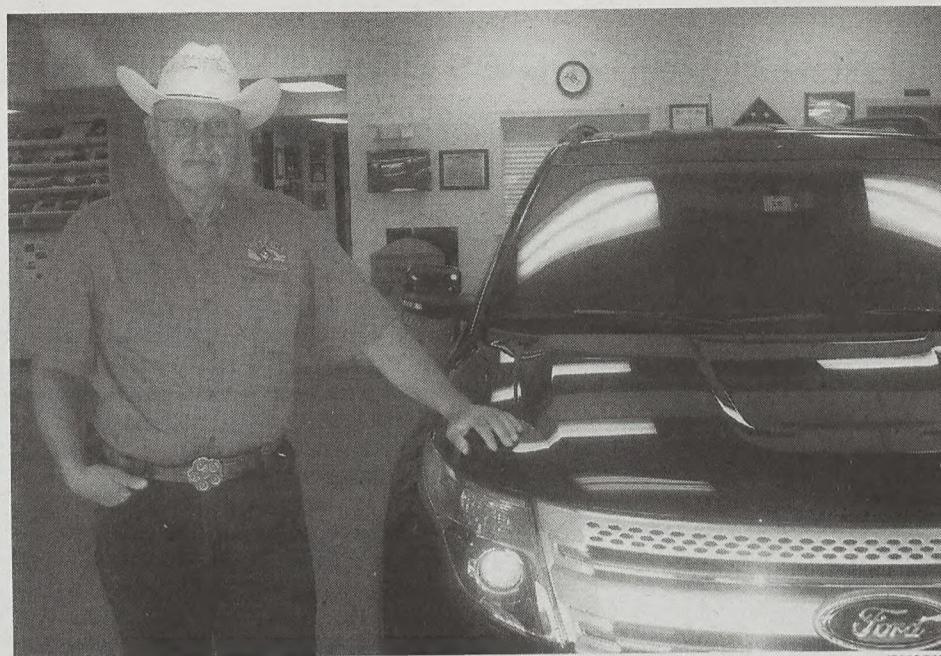
"Last night Todd took in a whole tattoo parlor," said Stone, referring to his son's most recent trade. "That's the first time we've done that. [We] had no idea what it was worth; we just rolled the dice. He's out in Burlington trying to sell it right now."

Interesting trades like these were what drew Lionsgate, Rogue Productions and eventually the Game Show Network (GSN) to rural Vermont. In spring 2011, Lionsgate began its search for a business that was operating, at least in part, on a bartering system. Preliminary research led them to a phone number for G Stone Motors.

"About a year ago last spring, Todd got a phone call from someone at Lionsgate in California," said Stone. "At first he thought it was a hoax. You know how that is, you get a lot of weird calls."

"[Then] we researched it, and yeah, Lion's Gate's a big deal. I mean that's a big production company," added Stone.

Further conversations led to the filming of a six-minute clip that was then brought back to California to introduce the idea to different networks. GSN, a network in the process of changing its image, has decided



G Stone Motors President Gardener Stone takes pride in his business.

LOCAL LOWDOWN 24

Fall Rummage Sale in Middlebury

Looking for some extra layers for this upcoming winter season? Head down to the Middlebury Congregational Church for used clothing, linens, kitchen items, toys and more. This is a two day sale on Friday afternoon and Saturday morning from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. All proceeds go to support church initiatives.

SEPT. 21, 12 P.M. - 5 P.M.

Bluegrass Show at the Town Hall

Local group known as Snake Mountain Bluegrass will be joined by the Connor Sisters for a lively evening of American music at the Town Hall Theater. Tickets are \$17 for adults and \$10 for students. To purchase a ticket call 802-382-2211 or visit www.townhalltheater.org

SEPT. 21, 8 A.M. - 10 P.M.

Ryan Hanson Band at Two Brothers

The Ryan Hanson Band, a group based out of Burlington, Vt., will play an evening show at Two Brothers Tavern. Influences for the band include the Dave Matthews Band. The band classifies themselves as an acoustic/ alternative rock group. Admission is free.

SEPT. 21, 10 P.M. - 12 A.M.

TAM Trek and Fundraiser

Groups and individuals are invited to come out and walk, run or bike the sixteen mile Trail Around Middlebury and to ask for pledges for each mile. All proceeds will go to support trail upkeep. Registration and a map are available at www.maltvt.org. Information at 802-388-1007.

SEPT. 23, 9:30 A.M. - 11 A.M.

Vermonters drop in on local brewery

By Conor Grant

Vermont is famous for the quality of its food products — Vermont cheddar cheese, Ben and Jerry's ice cream and the country's finest maple syrup are three of Vermont's edible exports for which the rest of the country is eternally grateful. While these three delicacies are fixtures in the world of American gourmet, the topography of Vermont's culinary landscape has shifted in recent years to accommodate a mountainous addition to the already broad range of Vermont food specialties: craft beer.

According to the Brewers Association, an independent organization devoted to the promotion of the craft beer industry in the United States, the total retail sales of craft beer in America exceeded \$8.7 billion in 2011, which represents a \$1.1 billion increase from 2010. Nowhere is the prevalence of craft breweries more apparent than in Vermont. There are currently 21 craft breweries operating in the state of Vermont, giving Vermont the distinction of having the most breweries per capita of any state in the nation.

The most recent addition to the Vermont craft brewery landscape is Drop In Brewery, a tiny independent brewery located on Route 7 in Middlebury, Vt. The brewery, a tiny operation that boasts four fermentation tanks, caters to restaurants and individuals in the greater Middlebury area. Brewmaster Steve Parkes, originally from England, and his wife Christine McKeever own and operate the brewery.

After brewing for a few years in England, Parkes decided to bring his expertise to America, opening a small brewery

called the British Brewing Company in Maryland in 1988.

"That was back in the early days of craft brewing," said Parkes. "There weren't many breweries around then. We were the pioneers in Maryland at the time."

After establishing the craft brewing industry in Maryland, Parkes relocated to Humboldt Brews in California. After a brewing stint in California, Parkes accepted an offer to teach brewing science at the American Brewer's Guild, and few years later, he and his wife seized a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to purchase the school.

After purchasing the school, Parkes moved to Vermont with his wife to manage Otter Creek Brewing Co. The pressure of simultaneously managing a relatively large brewery like Otter Creek and operating the school began to take a toll on Parkes, however.

"The school got bigger and Otter Creek got busier and it became too much for me to do both, so I found a replacement at Otter Creek and retired from there in 2008," said Parkes. Instead of deciding to take a prestigious job with a larger brewery or establish his own craft brewery, Parkes decided to continue to run the school and to open his own small microbrewery. From there, Drop In Brewery was born.

"For the first time in my life I [was] not working for somebody else," said Parkes. "There [wasn't] anybody to tell me 'Steve, that's a stupid idea.' I [could] just indulge."

Today, Parkes operates the American Brewer's Guild and Drop In Brewery out of the same facility on Route 7. The facility

provides an important, hands-on component to the education of his students. According to Parkes, the brewing school is sold out for the next two years.

"What was missing [from the on-line course] was the practical hands on thing, so we built the brewery and the classroom to go with it. Primarily this is the American Brewer's Guild Brewing School — Drop In Brewery is what we do with the equipment the rest of the time."

Parkes said he wants to keep the brewery small because he wants to maintain the integrity of the beers he makes at Drop In. Owning and operating his own brewery gave Parkes the opportunity to fully pursue his own interests for the first time in his lengthy career in the brewing industry.

"Brewing is a scientific discipline, but it's also a craft," said Parkes, who makes the effort to support local farmers and keep money in Vermont farming communities whenever possible. "All of my philosophies I've developed over 30 years of brewing are brought to bear on these beers. Every ingredient is chosen for a purpose. We've got German malt, American hops, Belgian yeast — a complete hybrid of a number of different brewing philosophies — all put together to build a beer from the ground up. We think people will enjoy it."

Parkes believes that the rapid growth of the craft brewing industry reflects Vermonters' rising standards for their food and beverages.

"People are starting to look now at value for [their] money," said Parkes. "People are turning away from commod-

ity products and I think we're really riding that wave. Once you have a beer with flavor, you don't want to go back to one without."

Students and local patrons are thrilled with the addition of another local brewery.

"Vermont has a number of great breweries" said Dan Vatnick '15. "I'm really excited to see what Drop In Brewery has to offer."

"We have featured [Drop In Brewery's] 'Heart of Lothian Scottish ale,' 'Sunshine and Happiness Golden Ale' and 'Solar Storm Belgian IPA,'" said Holmes Jacobs, owner and operator of Two Brothers Tavern in Middlebury, Vt. "They make fantastic beer. This should come as no surprise to those familiar with Vermont beer."

Parkes and the rest of the team at Drop In Brewery strive to use the finest ingredients and personally deliver their kegs in order to ensure that all of their customers are completely satisfied with their beers. He references his peer Bill Cherry, founder of the Burlington-based Switchback Brewery, when he describes the importance of personal service.

"[Bill] brewed the beer, he put it in the back of a truck and he delivered it himself. At a basic level, every account he sent it to would see the owner of the company wheeling the keg through the back door from his truck. So the busboys, the waiters, the bartenders ... all knew ... he was willing to put sweat into brewing his brand. That's authenticity. You can't fake authenticity. You're either real or you're not."



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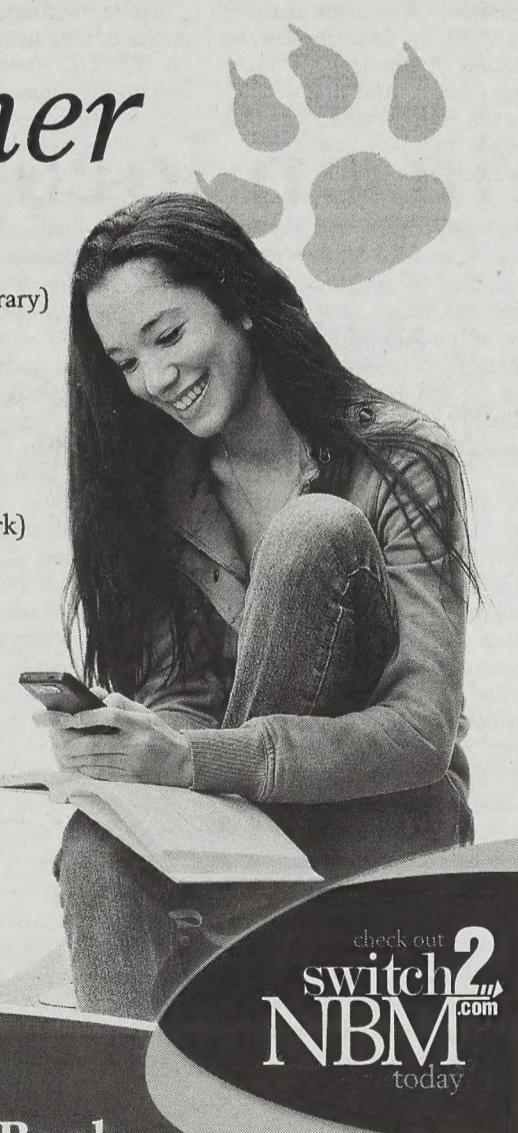
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OPINIONS

The Middlebury Campus

SCOCC endorsement: a question of power?

When endorsing a candidate for Student Co-Chair of Community Council (SCOCC), it is essential to define the position within the context of the college community. What does this student, a representative elected by peers, actually have the power to do? At first glance, the answer appears somewhat discouraging. The student serving as the SCOCC cannot legislate college policy. Rather, he or she works with the Council's numerous subcommittees to bring issues important to students, faculty and staff to the consideration of Old Chapel.

The Middlebury Campus

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The Middlebury Campus (USPS 556-060), the student newspaper of Middlebury College, is published by The Middlebury Campus Publications. Publication is every Thursday of the academic year, except during official college vacation periods and final examinations. Editorial and business offices are located in Hepburn Hall Annex, Middlebury College. The Middlebury Campus is produced on Apple Macintosh computers using Adobe InDesign CS5 and is printed by The Press Republican in New York. The advertising deadline for all display and classified advertising is 5 p.m. Friday for the following week's issue. Mailing address: The Middlebury Campus, Drawer 30, Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vt., 05753. Business phone: (802) 443-5737. Please address distribution concerns to the Business Director. First class postage paid at Middlebury, Vt., 05753.

Yet we believe that the position is not entirely insubstantial, largely because the SCOCC has the ear of key members of the administration, including Dean of the College Shirley Collado, who serves as the other co-chair of the Council. Far from being powerless, the SCOCC position has the potential to give students a real voice in college policies — if the student serving can work effectively with members of the administration to get things done. In the hands of a competent, confident student with extensive experience, the SCOCC can indeed have great influence.

Given this criterion, the *Campus* editorial board endorses Kathryn Benson '13. Benson not only has well-established relationships with key administrators, including Associate Dean of Students for Student Activities and Orientation J.J. Boggs, she also has a platform ripe with tangible objectives that would benefit the experience of students, faculty and staff at the College. For example, if elected, Benson would create a means for student groups and professors to coordinate joint event-planning, lowering the barrier between our academic and extracurricular spheres. Other notable initiatives on Benson's agenda include exploring a collaborative model with local businesses as well as making dorms feel more like home by painting colorful murals on currently white walls.

Benson has already shown effective leadership skills in a variety of forums, including serving as Ross Commons Co-Chair, Student Government Association

(SGA) Senator and intern in the Student Activities Office. As SGA Senator, Benson took the initiative to address a pressing socioeconomic issue on campus, authoring a successful resolution requiring professors to put all textbooks on reserve in the library, as opposed to being sold exclusively in the bookstore. We are confident that, if elected, Benson would advance a productive agenda, already laid forth, and welcome new ideas from students. She plans to create a blog to which students can submit feedback and view meeting notes, and also to move Community Council meetings from Old Chapel to the Crest Room, promoting a more inviting atmosphere for student participation.

The competing candidate for the SCOCC position, Barrett Smith '13, envisions a different role. Smith, whose campus experience includes working with the Social Justice Coalition, offers a distinct vision for the community: one that urges students to participate more actively in their government and demands that structures at the College operate in a more democratic way. Simply put, Smith has big ideas. His leading initiative, a social honor code, would require students to take responsibility for their own behavior and consider its effects on others and the surrounding environment. Unlike the College's current academic honor code, Smith's proposed code may be reaffirmed or adjusted each year, as students see fit.

Such initiatives are certainly admirable, but we do not feel the position as it cur-

rently operates is the most effective means through which to achieve this type of long-term change. The student elected as SCOCC should maximize benefits for those whom they represent — the students themselves. While both candidates seek to create a better community for their fellow students, Benson's platform is more realistic precisely because she has extensive experience working with the administration.

However, the election of the SCOCC raises important issues about student representation on campus. Currently, no college body that includes students has the authority to enact policy. While the SGA has access to funds, it can only make non-binding resolutions, essentially signaling to the administration what is important to students. No students currently sit on the Board of Trustees, nor do they have the authority to dictate official policy in the College's handbook. We firmly believe students should be given increased opportunity to directly legislate college policy, yet we do not take this role lightly. Structures that make enacting change a difficult, slow process are in place for a reason; any effort to alter them to allow for greater student representation and influence must be both thoughtful and realistic. How we envision such a position is crucial. Do we want the student body to vote on policy developed by elected student representatives? Should we open up the policy-making process to any and all students? Power can operate in numerous ways; as such, it should be considered seriously.

A call for a new mascot

Before I begin, remember that I write this with the utmost love for the College and its athletics programs.

We need a new mascot.

There is nothing about the panther that's specific to Middlebury or to Vermont. There is nothing about the panther that's specific to anything, really. According to Wikipedia, 33 schools across the country "boast" the panther as their mascot or nickname, making it the fourth most common college mascot. And that doesn't count schools like UVM, our neighbors to the north, whose nickname is the Catamounts, which is just a fancier way of saying panther.

Further, there isn't a strong historical connection between Middlebury and the panther. Director of Athletics Erin Quinn, an often reliable historian of Middlebury athletics, could provide no explanation for the decision, and a quick perusal of the written history of *The College on the Hill* also yielded no answer. Instead, a recent review of the different sculptures and art on campus titled "Art in Public Places" written by Director of the Middlebury College Museum of Art and Walter Cerf Distinguished College Professor Richard Saunders, provides the answer to this central question: "The black Panther was chosen as Middlebury's mascot after a local merchant established a contest to choose an appropriate symbol for the college in 1922."

The unnamed merchant may deserve the benefit of the doubt, as there were likely panthers in Vermont in 1922, but they left this region long ago, as they did throughout the Northeast.

It's high time, therefore, that Middlebury embraced a new mascot and nickname — one better suited both to the locale and to the NESCAC as well. Middlebury's conference rivals have little regard for convention when it comes to their mascots and nicknames. Only Wesleyan (the Cardinals) and Bates (the Bobcats) have generic nicknames; the mascots of the rest of the conference range from the

ungulates — the Camels of Connecticut College and the Jumbos of Tufts — to glorified school founders, such as the Ephs (Williams' tribute to founder Ephraim Williams, but manifested in the form of a purple cow) and the Lord Jeffs (Amherst's nickname, deriving from Lord Jeffrey Amherst who, in addition to founding Amherst, was responsible for distributing smallpox-infested blankets to the Native Americans during the French and Indian War).

However misguided some of the mascots may be, there is clearly a desire for creativity and individuality with respect to the nicknames of our NESCAC counterparts. And, with the exception of Conn. College, less popular mascots do not appear to lead to negative externalities on such things as the school's ability to recruit.

Middlebury, therefore, cannot help but consider a switch. And, by chance, there is a mascot that combines the ungulate characteristics of the camel and the elephant while instilling a sense of Middlebury pride — an animal, in fact, much larger than a panther and one that continues to roam the forests of Vermont: the moose.

If you have not had a chance to see a moose during your time in Vermont or elsewhere, it is difficult to describe the elegance and majesty of the elusive creature. Moose are not lanky and awkward, but powerful and graceful; more similar to a deft left tackle or a bruising power forward, than one might think.

And while largely docile creatures, the moose becomes strikingly aggressive when threatened. According to the Yellowstone National Park, moose attack more people than bears and wolves combined.

The size and strength of the moose means the great creatures have few natural predators, befitting of a school that just won its first Directors' Cup. Their inclination for solitude and sobriety, meanwhile, are befitting of a school founded in the principles of the liberal arts, which include pause for reflection and contemplation of the higher things. Could any animal represent these ideals better than the moose?

If nothing else, imagine 2,000 fans at Youngman Field at Alumni Stadium yelling in unison on third and long, "Mooooooose."



BY DYLAN LEVY

In support of WAGS

In a routine conversation with my grandmother last year, I mentioned that I was considering adding a women's and gender studies (WAGS) major to my already-declared history major. I thought — given my grandmother's thoroughly feminist background as an astronomy professor who sued her university for gender discrimination while simultaneously raising two children — that she would respond with total approval. Instead, she said something like, "Honey, don't you think history is enough? You don't want to discredit your resume — there are still plenty of working men out there who don't care for the gender studies types."

My initial reaction was to write it off as a generational difference. Maybe the Wall Street or corner office men of my grandmother's time thought that way, but my

generation's men — especially the ones at Middlebury — certainly did not. I had always assumed the men of my generation to be

totally open-minded when it comes to gender roles.

Upon later consideration of her comments, however, I realized my grandmother wasn't so far off at all, and the problem is not just confined to Wall Street. Here at Middlebury, there is a problematic stigma attached to women's and gender studies — that the classes are a "joke" and are exclusively for women. Or, as Joanna Rothkopf '12 articulated in a column last year on the subject of stereotypes about gender on campus: "Only dark-haired women are allowed to take WAGS classes, save one or two token gays."

Indeed, all of my WAGS classes in the past — and this semester as well — have had gaping gender disparities; at times, there has been a male-to-female ratio as high as ten to one. I find this highly problematic. For a school that so heavily promotes diversity in the classroom, this discrepancy is embarrassing and needs to change. In the long term, I think the college must make WAGS a distribution requirement, alongside science and art. In the meantime, however, while you're busy deciding on that last class to take to perfect your schedule, I ask — why not WAGS?

There are a number of excuses that I hear thrown around campus as to why someone won't take a WAGS class. Primarily, I've heard students reason that WAGS classes are specifically about women and are thus for women only. But such an argument is deeply flawed; this logic would require me to drop my history class on India because I'm not Indian. Moreover, WAGS classes are by no means exclusively about women; if you flip through the catalog, you'll see that

the department offers courses on masculinity, heterosexuality, nationality and transgender history, among other things.

Another common objection to taking a WAGS class goes like this: "The goals of feminism in America were achieved in the 1970's; why must we rehash it all on a thoroughly gender-neutralized campus?" To anyone who subscribes to this line of thought, I especially urge you to take a WAGS class. You will learn that your statement is utterly false — that a woman still earns 77 cents to a man's dollar in the United States, that we have a congressman purporting that women's bodies will somehow reject pregnancy in cases of "legitimate" rape.

Indeed, Congressman Todd Akin's ignorance brings up an important reason Middlebury students would all benefit from taking a WAGS class: basic literacy. In an election season that's increasingly becoming a discussion about women and their bodies, we have a responsibility to become educated on these issues and their nuances. I'd be willing to bet that if Congressman Akin had taken a WAGS course in college, he would not be losing the Missouri senate race due to his incredibly unenlightened remark. Like any other civil rights issue, the only way to gender equality is gender education. It is thus disappointing that progressive Middlebury students are so reluctant to take WAGS courses, especially considering the pressing need for literacy, activism and support in areas of gender equality.

It is not my intention to hold up WAGS as the one infallible department of Middlebury College. To be sure, WAGS classes and students at Midd have their own shortcomings. Specifically, WAGS students and professors alike must not get away with throwing around generalized anti-male rhetoric in the classroom — rhetoric that has brought prominent females of the 21st century such as Yahoo CEO Marissa Mayer to reject self-identifying as a "feminist." It is not okay, as I witnessed in a WAGS class last year, for a female student to accuse a male student of not having any perspective on a black woman's life because he is "a white male!" It is completely inappropriate for students to attack one another on a basis of their race and gender. For their part, students and professors of WAGS must create a fully inclusive classroom.

Most of all, I urge all Middlebury students to take a WAGS course not just for their own sake, but also for the sake of enhancing the classes themselves. It's a huge loss to have such a weak gender distribution in discussions on just that — gender.

All students have something to gain from taking a WAGS class. So how about we make a deal: I'll take an ECON class if you try out WAGS.

And then maybe I will get my grandmother's total approval.

JUDICIAL REVIEW

It was 1987. After a 14-2 regular season, the New York Giants advanced to the Super Bowl. After a hard-fought game, they finally won their first-ever Super Bowl, defeating the Broncos in a 39-20 victory.

After the game, Phil Simms of the Giants coined a phrase that is now common currency in the land of post-victory interviews.

When asked what he was going to do now that he'd won the game, he said, "I'm going to Disney World!" (Disney subsequently paid him \$75,000 for doing so.)

In June, after announcing the Affordable Care Act (ACA) decision, Chief Justice John Roberts, whose vote and opinion determined the fate of the law, was asked, in the tradition of victors, if he, too, was going to Disney World.

Alas, he was not. He responded that he was going to Malta, "an impregnable island fortress," over the summer. This trip may have been wise, considering the political brouhaha that followed the decision's announcement.

Chief Justice Roberts held that the ACA could stand, but not based on the commerce clause grounds upon which the administration had primarily defended it. Instead, he upheld it under the taxing power — perplexingly, as he had to simultaneously hold that the Act was not a tax for the purposes of the Anti-Injunction Act, and was a tax for the purposes of determining constitutionality.

Unsurprisingly, he was alone in this logic. Still, four justices — Justices Breyer, Ginsburg, Kagan and Sotomayor — agreed with the decision, though they upheld the Act under the Commerce Clause.

Commentators had a field day with the decision. Conservatives felt betrayed. Liberals felt betrayed. Conspiracy theories about Roberts' opinion flowed aplenty.

And, amidst all this turmoil, many congratulated the Chief Justice on saving the Court from politicization.

Whether you think this decision was celebration-worthy or cringe-inducing, it altered the trajectory of the American health care system and, consequently, will affect many Americans' lives, as do many Court decisions.

Though the Court won't reconvene until Oct. 1, it is possible to speculate on what some of the cases will involve this year. A preview of upcoming issues includes:

Race-based affirmative action: The Court has already agreed to hear Fisher v. University of Texas, in which a white student, Abigail Fisher, claims that she was not admitted to UT because of her race. Specifically, the case asks whether race can be considered when admitting and rejecting students to universities. As the law stands, race can be considered so long as it is only used to reach a "critical mass" of diversity in a student body.

Gay rights: The Court has been asked to hear cases on both California's Proposition 8 referendum and the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA).

In the Prop 8 case, petitioners are asking the Court to uphold voters' rights to reject gay marriage via referendum. The state's Supreme Court ruled last year that, though the state's voters rejected gay marriage, the state would still recognize and grant same-sex marriage.

The second case involves DOMA. The Defense of Marriage Act, passed in 1996 and signed by President Clinton, defines marriage as "a legal union between one man and one woman as husband and wife."

There have been many challenges to this Act. One such challenge is that of Edith Windsor, a woman who was forced to pay \$360,000 in estate taxes after the death of her partner. She would not have had to pay these taxes had her partner been a man. She is thus asking that the law be struck down based on an equal protection claim.

Religious liberties: The Obama Administration may have won the first round of the ACA battle, but many are in it for the long haul.

Kelsi Morgan '14 is from Owasso, Okla.

FROM THE BENCH

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The justices still have a few more weeks of vacation before they're back at work, but hopefully both they, and you, have had restful summers. They'll be deciding which cases they'll hear as we're finalizing which classes we'll take; and, with luck, these decisions will produce intellectually stimulating, interesting years for all of us.

It begins with registering to vote

In just 50 days, millions of Americans will head to the polls to choose the nation's next president. They will line up to exercise the right that is theirs by virtue of citizenship. In doing so, they will fulfill that fundamental civic duty so vital to the health of our democracy.

For many of us, this year marks the first time that we are able to cast our ballots. Although it is tempting to be cynical about everything politics-related these days, the easiest way to make a difference is by voting. When you walk into that voting station on Election Day, or more likely, fill out that absentee ballot in your dorm room, you are empowering yourself and telling the world that you want your voice to matter.

Still, you might believe that your vote won't make a difference in a nation of 300 million. But just imagine how many people out there are thinking the exact same thing. Think about what might happen if the couple million of you decided to give voting a chance. In a year like this one — when the result of the election is widely expected to be roughly a 50-50 split — those couple million votes will very much decide our

next president.

Even so, you might say, "I'm from Massachusetts; it's going to go Democratic anyway." Or "I'm from Maine; we have so few people it doesn't really matter." Think again. Although it's true some states like Massachusetts are in the bag for the presidential race,

there are plenty of other reasons to turn out and vote. For one, Massachusetts has a hotly contested Senate race that could decide the balance of power in that chamber of Congress. Maine — though small in size — has an important gay marriage proposition on the ballot this fall.

Regardless of what your beliefs are and what gets you riled up, just vote. If you don't, there is no reason for those in power to listen to you — and you lose your right to complain. A ballot is your most potent weapon in a democracy. Just think about it: you have the power to hire and fire the people who run your country. How could anyone refuse to exercise such a right?

For all those reasons above, you should drop by the Gifford Amphitheatre sometime today between 4:30 and 7:30 p.m. and register to vote. Already reg-

istered? Come apply for an absentee ballot. No matter which state you hail from — or even if you have never voted before — students from MiddVote will be there to help. The deadline for registration is just a couple weeks away in most states, so now is the time to get this done.

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Voting is a gift that millions of people around the globe, from the rebel fighter in the bloodied streets of Syria to the brave lawyer behind bars in rural China, yearn and struggle and die for. Even in this country, voting was never a given. It's a gift that many generations of Americans have fought to save from the doorsteps of tyranny, when the first shots were fired in Lexington, on the hallowed grounds of Gettysburg, in the trenches and on the beaches of Europe. It is our generation's turn to ensure that the blood of all those who came before us was not shed in vain. It is our generation's turn to honor the struggles of those civil rights heroes that made it possible for many of us to step into the voting booth. It is our generation's turn to take responsibility for this great republic.

It begins with registering to vote.

READER OP-ED

by MiddVote, a collaboration of College Republicans and College Democrats

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Sticking by the president

In last week's "The Elephant in the Room" column, Ben Kinney '15 offered a litany of what he perceived to be the failures of the Obama presidency. He claimed that the President's re-election campaign "no longer [inspires] hope" and that the man "lacks the foresight necessary to properly lead this nation."

We, the College Democrats, have a completely different view of this presidential election and of President Obama's administration, which we believe must be kept in office for four more

READER OP-ED years, given the stakes of this country's problems.

College Democrats

President Obama took office almost four years ago under extraordinary circumstances that few saw coming. During the year prior to President Obama's inauguration, the United States economy shed 3.6 million jobs. During the month that Obama took office, the economy lost another 818,000 jobs. Remember who was in power then? A Republican president with a trickle-down vision for the American economy shared by the current Republican presi-

dential nominee.

In order to respond to the claim made in last week's column that we are not better off than we were four years ago, one only needs to look at what Bill Clinton, in his convention speech, called "arithmetic." Is a plus 96,000 jobs score last month better than a minus 818,000 in January 2008? Just use arithmetic. Is plus two percent GDP growth better than 8.9 percent GDP decline? Just use arithmetic. Are the 4.5 million private sector jobs created in the last 30 months better than the 4.4 million lost in the year leading up to Obama's inauguration? Just use arithmetic.

Of course, the economy is not growing at the pace it needs to be. Yet, much of that has been caused by external factors beyond President Obama's control. The European debt crisis comes to mind immediately. The congressional Republicans blocking the President's jobs bill last September. And, most disgustingly, Republicans playing with fire by holding the debt-ceiling hostage in the summer of 2011.

By all reasonable standards, the proposition that Obama somehow failed

America because he inherited a Republican-made crisis and submitted job-creating legislation that was blocked by the same party is absolutely absurd.

In his column, Kinney also claimed that Obama has no vision for the American economy. Not true. Just to name a few major themes, President Obama's vision for the economy cuts taxes for businesses that create jobs in America, invests in college education so that the workforce endures in the globalized economy and ensures a balanced approach of raising revenue and decreasing spending as a way to cut the deficit.

Furthermore, Kinney hammered the President on his failed promises while ignoring his extraordinary list of achievements, including historic health care reform, a law making it possible for many of us to stay on our parents' health insurance today. The doubling of Pell Grants and reforming student loans for college kids, which also makes it possible for many of us to be here today. The end of the discriminatory "Don't Ask Don't Tell" policy. The killing of Osama bin Laden. Saving a million jobs in the now-booming auto industry. The Led-

better Fair Pay Act giving women equal pay for equal work. Wall Street Reform. Credit card reform. Extension of tax cuts and unemployment benefits. Giving a million "dreamers" a chance to come out of the immigration shadow.

Ultimately, this election is about the choice between two very, very different visions for America. It is not about picking a perfect president who will fulfill every promise, for there is no such thing. It is about whether we continue with the progress of the past four years and keep climbing out of this ditch, or whether we give the keys back to the guys that drove us into the ditch in the first place.

It's fair to say that Kinney, in his column, offered a glass half-empty vision of this election. It's a vision of blame and attack, and it offers no clear alternative. The country does not move forward when you're against something. Thus, we take the more optimistic, glass half-full view of supporting the President and standing for his vision. With Obama and the Democrats in power, this country is not just "hanging in there" — it is moving forward and we intend to keep it that way.

THE "F" WORD

What's so bad about feminism?

Feminism. Does this word scare you? Is it off-putting to you when others identify as feminists? Let's talk about it. Shouldn't it be a problem that feminism has turned into a dirty word, particularly among our 18-24 year-old age group? Well, I think it's a shame and I'm going to keep talking about feminism. I'm going to keep talking about feminism until people don't cringe at the word, or dismiss it out of hand as irrelevant or passé.

Feminism has moved far in public perception. What started as a movement that many of our mothers took part in has become a phrase often avoided by their daughters. Particularly when women in our generation have benefited so much from the feminist movement, the inclination to distance ourselves from it is baffling to me.

Feminism shouldn't be scary. It also shouldn't be something we shy away from, considering just how far women have come, and how far we could be pulled back. The fact that there is even an extant threat to Roe v. Wade should be a cause for alarm. It should be a kick in the pants to a generation that has enjoyed countless opportunities, such as Title IX funding and maternity leave. It should be a wake-up call — if we abandon the movement, forces in our country may very well quickly dismantle our progress. So then, why do we steer clear of the word today?

I think it's high time that we stop pretending "women's issues" are indeed solely the issues of women. The fight for coverage of contraception and availability of family planning should not be solely in the realm of women. These issues affect all of our society. They should be treated as such.

I think that it's time for us to start talking about why feminism is good for everyone, and why we should stop thinking of it as a radical relic of last century. The biggest misconception, I believe, is that feminism is equivalent to hatred of men, or is somehow anti-sex. I would like to present a more inclusive and complex lobby to you all. Otherwise, we are trapped in a definition that only works to divide a populace and alienate men from an issue that is most certainly of their concern. In terms of relevancy, I would also like to push the idea that we have already conquered all of the mountains of inequality that exist, and shattered every last glass ceiling. Progress is always a moving target and I look forward to hunting for it with you this semester.

NOT ABOUT THE PATRIARCHY

Sam Kaufman
'12 is from Jamaica Plains, Mass.

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The price of gender neutrality

One of the great things about Middlebury is that it is one of the country's leading institutions in the realm of social issues. However, the \$10,000 price of making two previously single-sex restrooms in McCullough Social Space gender-neutral caught our eye as excessive. Not only does this seem like an overly large sum to spend on converting only two restrooms, but it also frustrates us to think that the money could have been allocated to a more productive project. Just think about how many avocados we could have in our dining halls this fall with that money, or the number of cases of erectile dysfunction that could be cured or, more seriously, how we could have used the money for bringing a speaker to campus.

We also can't help but think: was

it worth the time and energy of people from five different committees to weigh the decision of converting these restrooms? Does the President's Staff, the Community Council, the Faculty Council, the Staff Council and the Space Council not have anything better to discuss than construction on some bathrooms in McCullough? Maybe this is why the "Space Council" hasn't figured out a way to put a Middlebury student on the moon yet.

We actually have no qualms with the passion and energy that has gone into bringing gender issues to light and allowing for equal opportunities for everyone. However, we believe a better, more practical solution would have been to include gender-neutral facilities in future buildings and only retrofit old restrooms when renova-

tions are required. Or Middlebury could implement a program in which students visit regional high schools to talk to students and teachers about issues of gender and sexuality.

As tuition-paying students, we want to use this opportunity to voice to the administration our opposition to this project and any future plans to continue converting functional bathrooms in the name of gender-neutrality. As we see it, the money could be used in a much more effective way. Plus, we really like peeing in urinals.

READER OP-ED

Anthony Lee '13 is from Plainsboro, N.J. and **Mac Stormont '13** is from Vinings, Ga.

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The evolution of Midd kids

As I made my way down Route 7 last week, I couldn't help letting my eyes wander occasionally. At first, the seemingly endless fields of corn caught my attention. However, my gaze quickly advanced towards the thin line separating the crest of the Green Mountains from the sky. On my way to campus, each Middlebury landmark instantly called to mind a vivid memory. The bright red Hannaford sign put me right back in the supermarket's meat section, as my housemates and I purchased pounds upon pounds of beef to grill on the ADP porch during the spring of my junior year. As I continued past the Dollar Store, I was again wandering the aisles in an attempt to find the cheapest way to dress up as my favorite superhero during my sophomore year. With a slight grin on my face, I even-

ually made my way past Jackson's on the River and remembered taking a girl on a date for the first time in the fall of my freshman

year, at what was then Tully and Marie's. When I reached Battell (my time-honored freshman dorm), I saw FYCs and parents collectively assisting the freshmen in unloading way more stuff than could ever possibly be needed at college.

Then it hit me, how unbelievably different these current perceptions were, compared to the first ones I had moving in to Midd, only three Vermont autumns ago. Apart from the expected excitement, occasional ambivalence and perpetual anticipation I felt as a freshman, above all else, I was eager. Eager to start classes. Eager to meet the baseball team. Eager to find a cute girl. Eager to meet my roommate. Eager to discover the campus. Eager to acclimate to life as a "Middlebury College student". While this eagerness certainly drove me to try a wide variety of new things and meet an even wider array of people, in hindsight, it may have been (subconsciously) overwhelming.

Armed with what was then a far cry from a well-established sense of identity, I immediately set out to do exactly what I felt a "cool" Midd kid would do.

"Armed with what was then a far cry from a well-established sense of identity, I immediately set out to do exactly what I felt a 'cool' Midd kid would do."

It was essentially like letting a different, idealistic persona guide my behavior.

Many months after I'd settled on a group of friends (who I now consider to be among my favorite people to spend time with), quit the baseball team and decided to prioritize my own interests, I became aware of something new. I realized that in an attempt to prove to Middlebury that I was a "cool" Midd kid, I had inadvertently created a person with whom I didn't actually agree. I didn't enjoy trying to find a party every night — I was free to socialize at the expense of being bedridden for the next 11 hours. I didn't enjoy donning Vineyard Vines belts and Croakies to look like the older guys on campus. Above all else, I didn't enjoy doing things in order to form a new identity.

It wasn't as if I woke up one morning and suddenly realized that I no longer agreed with the person I was trying to be. Rather, the transformation happened slowly, over three years.

As I've progressed through the previous three years at Midd (and abroad in Spain), I gradually decreased choosing what I felt I should be doing over what I actually wanted to do. I found myself doing fewer things that felt forced and unnatural and more of what I truly enjoyed.

One could argue that the difference between my first perception of move-in day compared to the one I had two weeks ago represents a sort of evolution. Throughout my three years at Middlebury, my sense of identity changed from being largely influenced by the perception other people had of me, to learning

and enjoying what I really wanted to do. Just as the struggle for existence is a prerequisite in Darwin's theory of evolution, so too did my struggle to figure out who I really wanted to be shape and modify my behavior over time at Midd. I believe that discovering who you are and what you really like to do are among the most important aspects of a Middlebury education. It is one of the many learning experiences that take place outside the classroom. It was a long, hard and occasionally bumpy journey, but I enjoyed it immensely as it was well worth the wait. (That's what she said #winkyface.)

Last fall, a few classmates and I spent a lot of time on a project that tried to identify why Vermonters seem particularly predisposed towards involvement in environmentalism. It was a continuation of a series of studies by [Professor of Economics] Jon Isham and [Stafford Professor of Public Policy] Chris Klyza, which analyzed trends in something called "social capital" in the state. To clarify, social capital refers to the idea that relationships between people, and social interactions in general, have value. And this could be a harsh generalization, but I'll say that anybody who has spent five minutes or more in Vermont can probably figure out that Vermonters like other people. A lot. So we ventured out to discover why exactly social capital in Addison County seemed to be "greening."

After weeks of phone calling, running (driving) around Addison County and interviewing everyone from farmers to hunters to real estate agents (curveball, right?), we began to piece together a somewhat more complete idea of why Vermonters — particularly these people who were members of environmental organizations — spend so much of this social capital stuff on the environment. We asked simple questions, like whether or not they considered themselves environmentalists, where they drew inspiration and what nature meant to them. We received varied, complex answers. We also identified a very common trend: regardless of whether or not these individuals identified themselves as environmentalists, or whatever they called themselves, they all attributed their concern for the environment to reasons outside of themselves.

It could've related to a desire to preserve as many bird species as possible. Or emotional attachment to farmland inherited from family members. Or even wanting to make sure that the three-year-old child crawling on the floor has the same wildlife to hunt that his father has been hunting his whole life. We discovered in these answers a profound awareness and concern that their actions had very real effects, for better or worse, on the lives of others.

The ancient Greeks — yes, the ones after whom we've largely modeled our political culture — had this idea that the citizen could (and should) play not just an active, but a valuable, influential role in society. Because, oddly, things seem to work well not only when people are engaged in their society, but when they are concerned about what happens to it. In this magical fantasy land called "civil

society," people care about whether their actions leave the community a better place because they know that the community is shaped by the actions and intentions of the individual. Now call me crazy, but this wonder world of involvement almost sounds like Vermont and that social capital stuff described above.

It is no coincidence that Vermont exhibits a whole lot of "civil society." For years, people have acknowledged that Vermont's population is one of the most politically active in the country. It could be that Vermont is a unique case. I, on the other hand, think it has to do more with something already discussed.

I don't believe that it's any coincidence that Vermont is at once a social capital goldmine and a hotbed for environmental activism. I think my earlier story illustrates that if you have people concerned about the environment, then you're likely to have people concerned about the community, and vice versa. The two just naturally give rise to one another, and I think it's there where we will find any hope of surviving as a species.

However painfully grim that last sentence may have seemed, I'm an optimist, I swear. Because only by talking about this thing I'm going to call "civic environmentalism" will anything actually change (ideally followed by a change in behavior, but we'll take this one step at a time). Though it hurts to say it, I know there are people out there who just aren't receptive to all that logic-y stuff and science black magic that says if we don't change, we're doomed. That's why I'm going to attack the issue from a pragmatic, realistic stance. Care about the community. Care about the environment. Even if it's not for the trees. Because as much as I love preservationism, preaching Muir's gospel may not get the job done.

In coming columns, I'll try (fail) to be witty and attempt to make like a good Phish jam and get really spacey for a while to illustrate a point and then tie it all together to make it sound somewhat cohesive (if there's one thing I love, it's a good Phish jam). I will try to abandon the soapbox every now and then while telling all you wonderful people why we should be nice to each other and the planet. Plus, this is an opinion column, so you've basically already subscribed to hearing me preach. Cheers.

READER OP-ED

Grant Nishioka '13 is from Wayland, Mass.

GREEN PIECE

Julian Macrone '14 is from Clifton N.J.

year, at what was then Tully and Marie's. When I reached Battell (my time-honored freshman dorm), I saw FYCs and parents collectively assisting the freshmen in unloading way more stuff than could ever possibly be needed at college.

Then it hit me, how unbelievably different these current perceptions were, compared to the first ones I had moving in to Midd, only three Vermont autumns ago. Apart from the expected excitement, occasional ambivalence and perpetual anticipation I felt as a freshman, above all else, I was eager. Eager to start classes. Eager to meet the baseball team. Eager to find a cute girl. Eager to meet my roommate. Eager to discover the campus. Eager to acclimate to life as a "Middlebury College student". While this eagerness certainly drove me to try a wide variety of new things and meet an even wider array of people, in hindsight, it may have been (subconsciously) overwhelming.

Armed with what was then a far cry from a well-established sense of identity, I immediately set out to do exactly what I felt a "cool" Midd kid would do.

"Armed with what was then a far cry from a well-established sense of identity, I immediately set out to do exactly what I felt a 'cool' Midd kid would do."

HAVE A THOUGHT? WANT TO COMMENT?

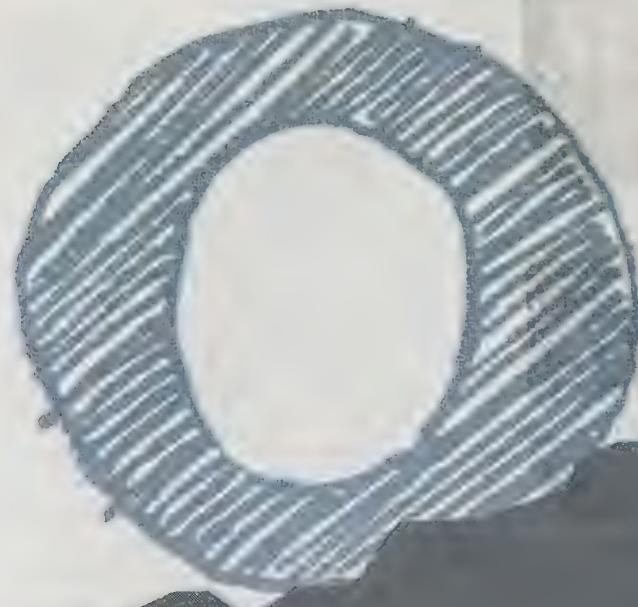
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OINK

BY LAUREN DAVIDSON

Two hundred and twenty first-year students packed their packs, checked their gear and loaded into vans on Friday, Sept. 14 to embark on a series of outdoor, student-led adventures lasting the entirety of the first weekend of the fall semester.

An extension of first-year orientation, Outdoor Introduction for New Kids (OINK) is a Middlebury Mountain Club program designed to introduce first-years to college life from an outdoor perspective.

The tradition of outdoor orientation programs at Middlebury, OINK included, facilitates the orientation process through exposure to the natural surroundings in Vermont.

Students participated in a range of three-day trips — from backpacking to rock-climbing — in small groups led by upperclassman volunteers.

2012 OINK co-coordinator and Mid-

dlebury Mountain Club Member Maya VonWodtke '13.5 believes that OINK helps introduce new students to some of the amazing features surrounding campus.

"One of the components that's so exciting for me is sharing our amazing backyard with incoming first years," said VonWodtke. "I feel like Middlebury is so special in part because it's nestled between the Green Mountains and the Adirondacks, and so many people don't discover that until they put a little more time into it. And to start that off your first weekend to me is the coolest."

This year, OINK had 29 available trips for first-years. The program saw a 50 percent participation increase from last year with 220 students attending, while last year only 140 students attended 20 trips.

Over 280 students applied for the available spots on this year's OINK trips. Students were chosen in a random draw and then were placed into specific trips based on their applications.

Aiding the program's growth was

the inclusion of new and inspired trips, such as contemplation practices, capoeira and an organic farming trip, which were inspired by students outside of the Mountain Club. Multiple students approached the OINK coordinators to make these programs happen.

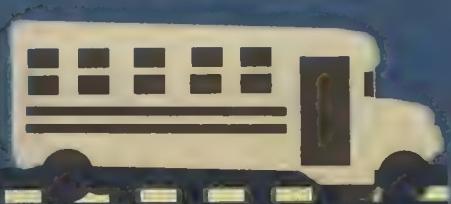
"There's been a lot of creativity and a lot of students wanting to share a new experience with incoming freshmen," said VonWodtke.

VonWodtke hopes that the inclusion of the new trips will inspire students to join the clubs associated with their OINK trip and will encourage more clubs to do the same in the future.

Despite the success of the 2012 OINK trip, the program has come a long way from its inception.

Originally titled Middlebury Outdoor Orientation, or MOO, the highly popular program suffered problems of extended waitlists. MiddView emerged in 2008 with \$150,000 worth of funding from the College, but was quickly canceled after the economic crash in the same year.

**THE FULL WEEKEND'S SCHEDULE
OF AN OINK GROUP WORKING
WITH THE VYCC (VERMONT YOUTH
CONSERVATION CORPS) ON TRAIL
MAINTENANCE:**



7:30 AM:
BOARD BUS FOR
SEVEN HILLS

9:00 AM:
END OF BUS TRIP - HIKE UP TO
TRAILHEAD

10:30 AM:
HIKE TO WHERE NEW TRAIL IS TO
BE CONSTRUCTED

10:00 AM:
ARRIVE AT TRAILHEAD
RAIN BEGINS
SAFETY PROCEDURES REVIEWED

11:00 AM:
BEGIN CLEARING TRAIL, FELLING
TREES, REMOVING OVERHANG-
ING BRANCHES, FILLING IN PITS,
DIGGING UP ROCKS

12:30 PM:
LUNCH TIME
BREAD, GOAT CHEESE, HUMMUS, DRIED
CHOCOLATE-COVERED RAISINS, YOGUR

1:00 PM:
TRAIL WORK
CONTINUES



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OINK was developed in 2009 as a response to the cancelled MiddView. That year, the program received no funding from the College and was solely run by Mountain Club guides. Due to the lack of funding and short training period, the 2009 program was very small.

This year, the Student Government Association (SGA) was able to provide \$20,000 of funding towards OINK. Students paid a fee of \$125 to participate. Additionally, financial aid was available for qualifying students subtracting \$100 dollars from the original fee.

This year marks the last year of OINK. Next year, outdoor orientation will transition back to MiddView, which will be mandatory — and more importantly — free for all incoming first-years.

Director of Outdoor Programs and Club Sports Derek Doucet is impressed with the growth of outdoor orientation programs and the student leaders who organize the event each year.

"OINK has grown in size each year the MMC has run it, which is an exciting trajectory to see with the return of Mid-

dView on the horizon," wrote Doucet in an email. "The MMC has done an outstanding job keeping the tradition of orientation trips at Middlebury alive since the recession."

Doucet is anxious about next year's changes, but believes the transition will run smoothly.

"It will be the largest trips program we've ever run, and we'll need over a hundred student leaders to step up. It simply can't happen without student energy and commitment.

"The prospect of the trips program intentionally and thoughtfully embedded within our overall orientation offering is incredibly exciting to me," continued Doucet. "We have a tremendous opportunity to introduce the 2014 first year class to the Middlebury community in all senses of the word."

In spite of the growth of this year's OINK orientation and the optimistic future for next year's program, OINK co-ordinators still encountered a problem with students dropping out days before the Friday trip.

Co-coordinator and recent graduate Janet Gehrmann '12 believes that many students feel the pressure to drop OINK due to their class work load and weekend social events that may prompt them to feel as though they are missing out. Leaders attempted to curb this problem by making a personal connection with their "OINK"ers. She believes the leaders are really what make the program happen each year.

"They're the level of connection, they're the people that get the program off the ground," said Gehrmann.

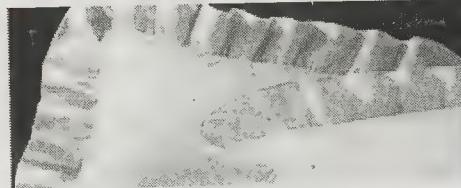
Nevertheless, the first-years remain the most important aspect of any outdoor orientation trip. Co-coordinator Tess Sneeringer '14.5 stresses that OINK provides a truly irreplaceable Middlebury experience that first-years can look back on over their four years at the College.

"It's an orientation trip. It's not just about your outdoor experience; it's about your Middlebury experience," said Sneeringer.

LAYOUT BY OLIVA ALLEN



BEDROOM BRIEFS | STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: JAKE CONNOLLY



BY KATE MINOLA

Why did I seek out the position of sex columnist, you may ask? I didn't. I was offered the position. I'd like to think it is because I remind people of a younger, less horse-like Carrie Bradshaw, but it probably has more to do with the fact that I talk so brazenly about my experiences (fine, sex-experiences).

Since it is so challenging to separate sex and alcohol at Middlebury, I'm not even going to try. Wine makes me horny, vodka makes me slutty and tequila makes my clothes fall off. Oh, I forgot beer. Beer just makes me feel fat. I guess it is possible that my synapses are uniquely susceptible to fermented drinks. I know that's not true though. Don't lie to yourself. You're a slutty drunk, too. If I'm wrong here, you probably fall into the "whiney drunk" or "violent drunk" category, both of which, I would argue with bias, are worse than getting naked.

Have you ever woken up in a bed far off campus, next to a guy you vaguely remember having a drunken political debate with the night before and realized that the only way to get back to your room is by waiting for him to stir from his alcohol-induced coma and drive you? No? Me neither. Since we're being honest, I've also never done the walk-of-shame at five on the first Monday of classes in September. Nor have I ever peed my pants at a music festival.

I hope you picked up on my sarcasm in the previous paragraph. Despite having done all those things and way more, I have somehow (as far as I know) avoided the "slut" taboo. How on Earth did I manage that? Well, I take Usher's advice very seriously: "We want a lady in the streets but a freak in the bed." I won't lie and say that it's easy to avoid the offensive and demeaning slurs that go along with being a modern, horny woman. It requires practice. I learned by trial-and-error, mainly during freshman year.

I didn't really drink in high school, so the novel combination of open access to alcohol and empty beds led to behavior that the Parton Health Center dubs "risky." No, I was not having unprotected sex — I'm not an idiot. Nor was I charging people for sexual favors — I'm not a criminal. But I definitely took advantage of my freshman girl appeal.

Luckily, freshmen are granted the leeway to act like imbeciles. Just this past weekend I saw a freshman boy introduce himself to an upperclassman girl as a lacrosse recruit. No name, simply a potential lacrosse player. To the youngster's credit, I saw him walking, hand-in-hand, towards Battell with a nice-looking freshman girl later that night. Apparently you don't even have to be on the team to score.

Now that I've got a few years of college under my belt, my skinny belt (I've been avoiding beer), I am thankful for my "risky" freshman year. I learned that there is a way to have a casual hook-up without being denigrated by peers, to laugh off almost anything and most importantly, that anonymity is not overrated. In fact, the reason I am not using my real name in this column is because I would like to be employed someday. Considering our current job market, that may be optimistic, so at the very least, I'll be confident that my parents, siblings and future children will have no proof that I was anything other than a celibate, doe-eyed prude in college.

By Stephanie Roush

"As soon as I heard about it, I joined, as soon as I joined, I wanted to become more involved in it," said Jake Connolly '13, discussing his involvement in the Community Friends program. The program pairs local kids with students who then commit to spending two hours each week with their community friend.

"It's just so simple," said Connolly, "it gives the kids someone to look up to in the community." Now a senior, Connolly is a student coordinator for the program and encourages all students to apply to become a mentor.

"It's so critical for Middlebury students to become involved in the community."

Over the past three years, Jake's bond with his community friend has grown immensely.

"It's definitely one of the most important things I do at Middlebury," said Connolly.

Part of Connolly's interest in the Community Friends program stemmed from his desire to cultivate relationships outside of the College.

"If you never get off campus you lose out on what ties the school to this place," he said.

Living off campus this year, Connolly feels more apart of the community he has spent his previous years giving back to.

"I've been enjoying frequenting Carol's Hungry Mind to study or the Co-op to grab a snack," he said.

"[Middlebury] is home for me, and at this point in my life, Middlebury is the place I identify the most with."

A pre-med molecular biology and biochemistry major, Connolly has also spent extensive time volunteering at Porter Hospital. Throughout his sophomore and junior years, he worked in the emergency room dealing with everything from broken arms to heart failure.

"I've worked in hospitals since I was a sophomore in high school," he said. "I've known I want to go into medicine for a long time."

Connolly plans to attend medical school next year and pursue a career as a surgeon.

"I want to operate on people," he said with a huge grin on his face. "I've watched countless surgeries, and I can't believe people do that for a living."

Back in high school, he worked as a janitor in the operating room of his local hospital. This early exposure to surgery sparked his interest and has helped guide both his academic and extra-curricular pursuits at Middlebury.

When asked about his other commitments, Connolly, in a over-emphasized British accent, simply said "theater." His involvement in theater didn't start until last fall, although he participated in drama in high school.

"I was kind of sick of it," he recalled.

"I didn't pick up a script or see a stage. I didn't even go to plays. I was kind of a jerk about it, actually."

Yet, this all changed when he was cast in last fall's production of *The Art of Success*. Connolly's role in the play helped him rediscover his love for theater. Last spring, he acted in Caryl Churchill's play *Serious Money*, and this fall, he will perform in the Shakespeare classic *As You Like It*.

With theater, medicine and the Community Friends program, Connolly is involved in a variety of different aspects of college life. Over many years and an array of campus activities, the relationships he has built remain the most valued part of his college experience, noting how much he admires "the integrity and loyalty of my friends."

When asked if there is anything more to know about him, he paused for a moment and then said, "I make a mean Italian sub in Proctor — I've pretty much perfected it."



JIAYI ZHU

Connolly performs in College theatre productions while planning for medical school.

DISTRIBUTION REQUIREMENTS

Course:	Playwriting I
Professor:	Dana Yeaton
Department:	Theater
Credits:	ART, CW
Location:	Warner 507
Meeting Time:	M,W 12:15-1:30

Each week, the Campus profiles a noteworthy class from among the semester's offerings.

PROFESSOR PERSPECTIVE:

Visiting Assistant Professor of Theatre Dana Yeaton has been teaching a playwriting class at the College since 1999.

"That makes it about 13 years now," said Yeaton, a seasoned playwright himself. Yeaton has high expectations for his class this semester. "I want them to understand and be able to create dramatic action," he said. "P.S., I've been trying to figure it out myself, and I still don't know; it's the Holy Grail."

In this writing-intensive course, students write four ten-minute plays, revise their two favorites and then write a thirty-minute long play to culminate the course. Surprisingly, Yeaton's favorite assignment in the course is the first one: the bad play.

For this assignment, the students write a bad play filled with their biggest pet peeves with theater: gratuitous smoking, unnecessary obscenities, etc.

"I think pound-for-pound writing the bad play frees you up," he said. "I think [writing a bad play] is a critical first step toward writing a good one."

STUDENT PERSPECTIVE:

While Playwriting I mainly attracts more creatively inclined students, it also offers a break for others who badly need an imaginative, yet academic, outlet.

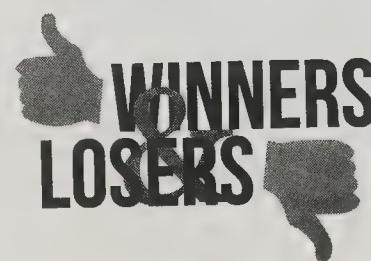
"I took this class because I've been interested in playwriting for a while, but never actually finished a play," said Chelsea Melone '15.

Melone's comment may ring true for many other members of the class. Writer's block is a common problem among creative writers, and working in an academic setting helps provide a solution by forcing every student to complete works-in-progress.

The bad play festival, which took place this past Sunday, was the student's first real taste of playwriting. Most students saw their own work performed for the first time.

From another perspective, Michael Bernstein '15 took Playwriting "because at Middlebury I don't use my creative side."

"I'm excited to use the non-analytical part of my brain," said Bernstein.



ACTIVITIES FAIR
Your inbox has never felt so popular.

FRAUD ON SEO SITE
Don't mess with Midd kids.

DALAI LAMA TICKETS
It was like waiting for the 5th Harry Potter book ...

COLD WEATHER
We're hoping that global warming stretches summer out a few more days.

ATWATER SUITES
Fratwater Suites?

FIRST PAPERS
It's like riding a bike ... psych!

GENDER-NEUTRAL BATHROOMS
You noticed, we assume.

ADD PERIOD ENDS
Just as you were putting the finishing touches on that dream schedule ...



E-books reduce student burden

Pilot program aims to integrate print and digital course materials

By Jackie Park

Thanks to a pilot program that began this fall, students seeking ways to save money on textbook costs now have free access to 44,000 e-books. An e-book is an online version of a printed book.

The e-books can be accessed with a wide range of mobile-enabled devices, and students can browse available titles online at [go/ebk](#).

Many students burdened by high prices on printed textbooks welcome the College's move towards free access to books.

"It is going to take a bit of time for everyone to get used to using e-books, but e-books are something that I will definitely opt for, considering the money I would get to save," said Camila Fernandez '15. "I would choose e-books, especially for ones that I only have to read a chapter or two out of the whole book."

Head of Collections and Digital Initiatives Rebekah Irwin said that the e-book program will benefit students across a wide range of disciplines.

"Along with thirty other colleges and universities like Cornell, Dartmouth and the University of California Berkeley, we're taking part in an experiment this fall semester to gain first-hand experience with e-textbooks in the classroom," Irwin said. "About twenty [course] sections are taking part, including economic courses, psychology, biology and German."

Irwin added that one goal of the pilot program is to determine the advan-

tages and disadvantages of permanently adopting an e-books program, as well as to gauge student and professor responses to using e-books in place of traditional textbooks.

Though students are able to access the e-books free of charge, there are certain costs associated with the books that students may not see, according to the College Bookstore Manager Georgia Best.

"Although some students had access to free e-books this semester, they were not free — the College paid a hefty fee to participate in this pilot program," Best said.

"Whether the College continues to participate in the program [and] how to pay for the fee will be up for discussion after we evaluate the pilot program at the end of the semester."

Irwin described the e-book program's benefits as far-reaching.

"Right now we are stuck in the middle," Irwin said. "We are buying thousands of books and we are also buying thousands of e-books; we want to make everyone happy."

"The thing with print books is that we buy books for other Middlebury schools in Mills College Cali. or other places and they ship it back to us if there is work to be done on the books and we ship it back to them," Irwin said. "So it seems, if you are thinking about carbon footprint, the way we ship books back and forth to our other schools is not the best environmentally and there are other options. But with e-books, there are no boundaries when we are thinking about students who are going abroad or traveling, since they would be able to access

these e-textbooks almost anywhere."

She added that students fond of making notes, annotating and highlighting their books need not fear the digital textbooks.

"You can annotate and add notes on these e-textbooks," Irwin said, "and faculty can highlight sections and add their own annotations to share through the e-textbook with their entire class."

Professor of Economics William Pyle and Assistant Professor of Economics Andrea Robbett are both participating in the experiment this fall with their microeconomic theory courses.

"For me, the jury's still out [regarding e-books]," Pyle said.

"In part, [this is] because I still need to learn how to use the various features. But I can see it being useful to write clarifying notes next to certain textbook questions or problems and to have those notes visible to all students. I asked my class for feedback and many reported liking the highlighting and post-it notes features [of the e-book]."

Pyle discussed students who already are using the College's new textbook options. "About a third have already opted to purchase the soft copy, three-hole punch version for \$34. So some, obviously, are opting out. But even at that price, it is still a deal compared to the hardback copies." The hardback copies of the textbook cost \$197.

"No one quite knows what the solution will be yet," said Irwin, at some point in our lives, textbooks, like personal mail and newspapers, may well move online. But that is many years off. We plan to buy both e-books and printed books for many years to come."

[BROWSE E-BOOKS @ GO/EBL](#)

SOUND BITES: THOUGHTS ON FOOD



BY STEPHANIE SOUSSLOFF

Upon arriving home last May after my first semester of college, I was convinced I had destroyed my body. I had been hearing about this new phenomenon known as "juicing" — when you drink only juice for a given number of days.

One juice cleanse in particular, The Blue Print Cleanse (BPC), caught my eye with its simple slogan: "BPC: Work Hard. Play Hard. Cleanse. Repeat." The BPC promises to rid your body of built-up toxins, subsequently restoring your energy and all around well-being.

I was itching to get started, eager to feel revived; I ambitiously chose the four-day foundation cleanse, committing to 96 hours of substituting food with six bottles of juice per day, consuming the juice at specific four-hour intervals.

I thought to myself, "I love juice, so how hard could it really be?"

Day one went by fairly easily; I was excited by the novelty of my new elixir. I could not admit to myself that the green juice I was supposed to consume four times a day was unbearably sour and that the watermelon juice was too heavy on the cayenne pepper. I loudly promoted my new way of living. The next morning I sat at my kitchen table staring at the bright green glass in front of me: breakfast. I plugged my nose. Determined to drink it, but wanting to avoid nausea, I reasoned I didn't have to finish every bottle.

I failed to consider how famished I would become, depriving my body of half of the already quite limited energy it was scheduled to receive.

The one highlight to each day was the final juice, a cashew milk that tasted like the most delicious substance ever concocted. For four painful days I watched the clock, waiting for time to pass. I tried to distract myself with friends, but the sounds coming from my crying stomach were too loud.

On the evening of the third day I sat around my family's dinner table, scraping any remnants of cashew milk I could salvage from the bottle — any last bit of energy for the hungry, restless night ahead of me.

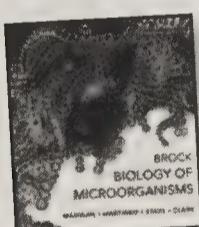
My family was convinced I was going mad as my extreme hunger brought on uncontrollable fits of laughter. They told me multiple times to just give up. I'm not sure if it was the smell of the pesto wafting from their plates or my survival instincts taking over, but I gave in.

The Blue Print Cleanse defeated me. I was not the stubborn, determined and completely relentless person I thought myself to be. The next morning I woke up feeling not guilty, but ecstatic at the thought of a solid breakfast. A meal with utensils! Should I have granola and yogurt? Sliced fruit and eggs? The options were endless. For weeks I rebelled against all things liquid. Even a glass of fresh squeezed orange juice evoked traumatic memories.

I guess you could call this past summer a bit of a juicy journey: a three-month period where I experienced my highest highs and lowest lows with regards to liquids.

While I don't think I'll be "cleaning" myself BCP style again any time soon, I can proudly say I've developed a new appreciation for the sheer volume of nutrition one can pack into one small glass.

PRICEY READS: A SELECTION OF TEXTBOOKS FROM THE COLLEGE BOOKSTORE WITH FREE E-BOOK VERSIONS NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE*



Biology of Microorganisms
(\$188.75 new, \$141.60 used)



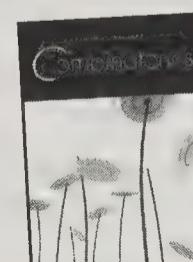
Basic Econometrics
(\$182.00 new, \$136.50 used)



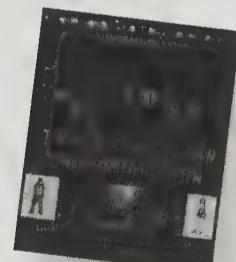
Psychology
(\$158.95 new, \$1119.25 used)



The Cosmic Perspective
(\$149.19 new, \$111.90 used)



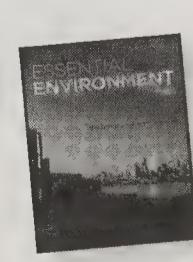
Introductory Combinatorics
(\$124.00 new, \$93.00 used)



Theatrical Design & Production
(\$121.00 new, \$90.75 used)



Deutsch: Na Klar! (w/ workbook)
(\$266.85 new, \$200.15 used)



Essential Environment
(\$125.95 new, \$94.50 used)



Principles of Biochemistry
(\$190.50 new, \$142.90 used)

*Listed prices taken from the College Bookstore website, accurate as of print date



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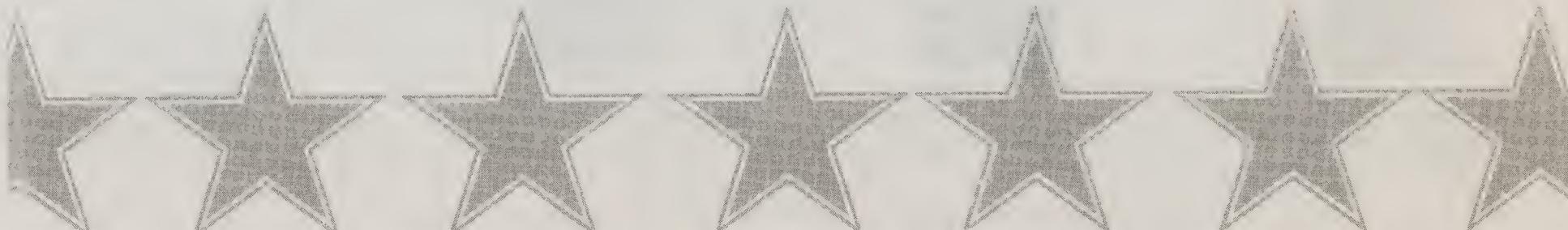
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Middlebury Campus

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are supporting
a 100-year-old
tradition that has
trained countless
journalists, writers
and designers,
including Pulitzer
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Sleeping Dogs features guns, cops, adventure and karaoke
Page 18

ARTS & SCIENCES

The Middlebury Campus

Science Spotlight

Spatafora Lab explores humans vs. microorganisms

COURTESY BIG STOCK PHOTOS

By Deirdre Sackett

This year, Heinz-Given Professor of Biology & Pre-Medical Science and Chair of the Biology Department Grace Spatafora found herself with a rather large lab. Along with a dedicated team of students, some of which worked in Spatafora's lab over this past summer, Spatafora is working toward the lab's main objective: examining a certain protein, SloR, and its role in mediating gene expression in bacteria.

"Our lab's overarching goal is to gain an understanding of how microorganisms can adversely affect human health," said Chris Matteri '13, a member of the Spatafora lab. "In particular, we study the bacterium *Streptococcus mutans*, one of the main species that causes tooth decay. We hope that the insight we gain on how this bacterium causes disease at the molecular level could ultimately be used to design treatments."

Matteri noted that while the Spatafora lab's research might seem esoteric at first glance, it has implications for improving the lives and health of people across the world.

"Tooth decay may not seem very important in light of other more deadly diseases, but it has a substantial financial cost and disproportionately affects those in lower income families," said Matteri. "Poor oral health is often associated with poor general health. Additionally, *Strep. mutans* can sometimes cause more serious infections, such as those of the blood or the heart."

The virulence of *Strep. mutans*, like many other disease-causing bacterium, is modulated by genes. The "expression," or activation of these gene sequences in the bacterium, leads to increased virulence of the disease.

To assess how *Strep. mutans* genes are expressed, the lab is focusing on the protein SloR, which acts as a "genetic switch" turning these disease-causing genes on and off in the bacterium. What triggers SloR is the amount of metal in the environment, such as in the human mouth. An understanding of how the switch works could allow

researchers to control it and keep the "bad genes" switched off permanently in *Strep. mutans*.

Each student in the lab has a specific objective to accomplish. Matteri's main objective is to figure out which genes the protein switches on and off. Matteri uses a process that he calls "molecular fishing."

"First I glue the protein to the DNA of the genes it is controlling, then I pop open the cells, pull the protein and its attached DNA out and see what I've found," said Matteri. "Discovering which genes the

Like all science, things often don't go according to plan. But if you step back and think about it, we are programming life. The molecules we work with shape all life, including us.

CHRIS MATTERI '13
SPATAFORA LAB MEMBER

switch controls will help us figure out how the switch works."

This research opens the door to further studies that can focus on designing therapeutic treatments. These treatments could target SloR-modulated virulent genes, alleviating the process by which *Strep. mutans* becomes a lethal threat.

Garron Sanchez '13 began working in the Spatafora lab this past summer.

"My specific project concerns [SloR]," said Sanchez. "This protein has been shown to regulate many of the genes that cause cavity formation."

In addition to his summer work, Sanchez's project will continue into the fall semester.

"Building on my work over the summer, I am investigating the three-dimen-

sional structure of the SloR protein in order to elucidate how this protein interacts with double stranded DNA to turn off or turn on the genes that lead to destruction of the tooth enamel," Sanchez said.

In addition to the lab's general goal of discovering what genes the protein switch controls, Matteri is working on another related project that started last year.

"That project involves using cutting-edge DNA sequencing technology to take a snapshot of all of the genes that are currently active," said Matteri. "We can compare data from different conditions to further understand which genes are controlled by our switch. Once we figure this switch out, which may be pretty soon, there will certainly be more questions to ask about the molecular biology of our bacterium."

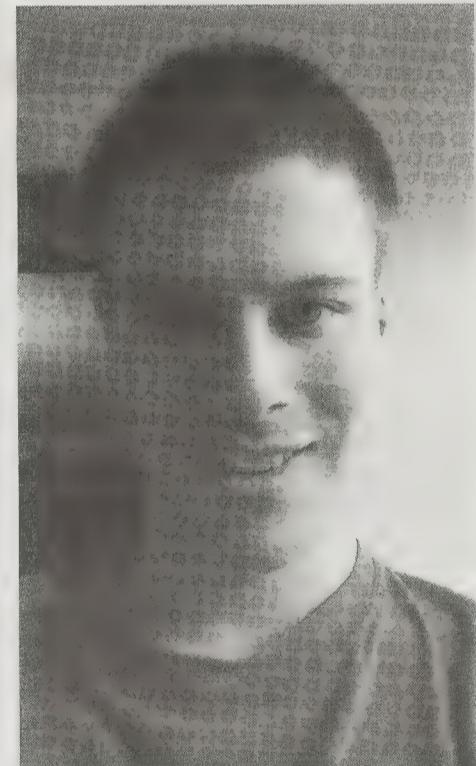
Spatafora emphasized the shared value of hosting undergraduates in her research, both for herself and her students.

"The relationship I share with these students is mutually beneficial," wrote Spatafora in an email. "The students commit to a senior capstone experience that allows them to explore significant biological questions at the laboratory bench, prepares them for post-graduate study, provides them an opportunity to communicate their research findings to the college community and/or perhaps at a professional meeting, and affords them an opportunity to contribute to the published literature."

"I benefit from the students' hard work, which moves the research along in a way that continues to earn major funding from the National Institutes of Health, and by being able to showcase undergraduate research at national and international meetings," she continued. "I also get to watch these students evolve as independent researchers and problem solvers, some of whom go on to pursue research careers of their own. What could be more gratifying?"

Matteri also commented on the inevitable ups and downs to working in a research lab.

"Working in molecular biology can be frustrating at times," Matteri said. "Ex-



Chris Matteri '13 is a member of Spatafora's research laboratory, examining *Streptococcus mutans* bacteria.

periments take a long time. Like all science, things often don't go according to plan. But if you step back and think about it, we are programming life. The molecules we work with shape all life, including us. That's pretty cool."

Sanchez noted that the future goals for the lab are to further develop the knowledge base for microbial genetic research in the oral cavity with *Strep. mutans* at the forefront of this research, given its significance in dental caries development.

Other members of Spatafora's lab include Meghan Stang '13, Clark Hatheway '13 and Karl Benz '13, who were not available for comment.

DON'T
MISS
THIS

Invisible Odysseys

As a part of the myAmerica Immigration Symposium, the M Gallery will exhibit a show titled "Invisible Odysseys" featuring the art of Mexican farm workers in Vermont and curated by renowned artist B. Amore.

9/21, 7 - 9 P.M., M GALLERY AT OLD STONE MILL

The Kid with a Bike

A young boy, abandoned by his father, bonds with the town hairdresser, who agrees to foster him on weekends. Winner of the 2011 Cannes Grand Jury Prize In French with English subtitles. Sponsored by the Department of French. Free.

9/22, 3 AND 8 P.M., DANA AUDITORIUM

Environmental/Figurative Interiors

Students in Jim Butler's spring Foundation-Drawing class spent more than five weeks creating large-scale, multimedia drawings of a live model posed in a theatrical tableau. The resulting images are combinations of charcoal, ink, gouache, photo collage and found objects.

9/26, JOHNSON MEMORIAL BUILDING

Stieglitz-era photography on display at art museum

By Jamie Lee

A new exhibit this year at the Kevin P. Mahaney '84 Center for the Arts, titled "Camera Work: Stieglitz, Steichen, Strand and Company," is now on display.

It is inspired by Charles A. Dana Professor of History of Art & Architecture Kirsten Hoving's course, "Alfred Stieglitz and Camera Work" from last year.

As the exhibit's name suggests, the gallery highlights three main figures of American photography: Alfred Stieglitz, Edward Steichen and Paul Strand, in addition to featuring other lesser-known artists. *Camera Work* was a pioneering art journal published by Stieglitz between 1903 and 1917 in his attempt to establish photography as a fine art.

Before the publication of *Camera Work* and its eventual critical acclaim, however, Stieglitz spent over five years as the editor of *Camera Notes*, a journal of the Camera Club of New York. Older, more conservative members challenged and dismissed his idea for the journal.

Determined to make *Camera Work* the finest art publication of its day, Stieglitz compiled his and other important photographers' works, such as those of Steichen and Strand.

He hoped that this would completely reshape photography and without question redefine it as fine art.

Steichen, one of Stieglitz's contemporaries, was a frequently featured photographer in *Camera Work*.

In a partnership with Stieglitz, he opened Gallery 291, an infamous art gallery that cultivated the likes of Georgia O'Keeffe

and Pablo Picasso.

Strand, another modernist of Stieglitz and Steichen's ilk, also helped establish photography as an art form in the 20th century.

In addition to photography, he was also a filmmaker, and wanted to use the camera as a tool for social reform. He too was featured in *Camera Work*, and much of his work dabbled in abstractions.

Today, when studying Stieglitz and other photographers' works, it is impossible to deny their wishes — photography, or rather the photography presented here in the exhibit, is truly an art form that cannot be denied.

Many of the photographs hardly resemble what we know of as traditional "photographs."

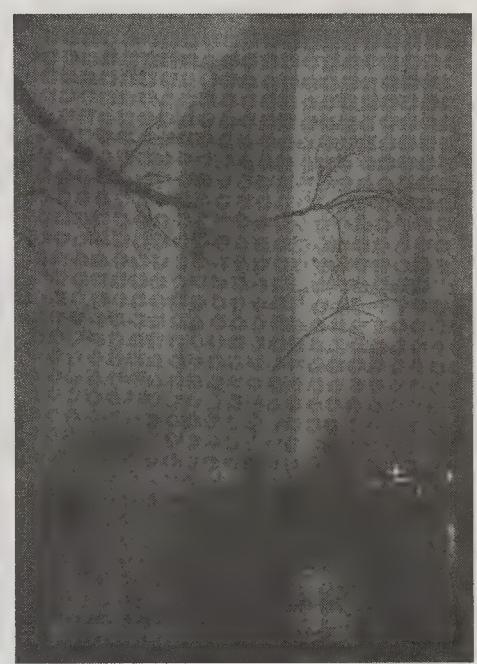
Many of the pieces have gone through an intaglio printmaking or photo-mechanical process known as photogravure, thus rendering them rich in tonal details that create painting-like characteristics.

This photogravure process complements the photographs' pictorialism, an aesthetic movement that dominated photography during the late 19th century and early 20th century.

Pictorialism, while there is no standard definition, refers to the style of photography involving manipulation of the photographs in such a way that the subject of the photograph is no longer presented in a "natural" sense.

By doing this, the photographers can create, rather than merely capture, the subjects of their art.

In addition to the photogravure process, photographs such as Stieglitz's "Two



PHOTOS COURTESY

Towers" and "The Steerage" clearly show a careful alignment and consideration of the focus, the present geometric shapes and the precise positioning of the subject itself.

Unlike painting or sculpture, photography is relatively modern in its conception, and to some critics, photography might seem too commonplace to be considered art that deserves much fame or attention.

But this exhibit is not just about showing a collection of "pretty" photographs.

It shows us the very photographs that helped achieve Stieglitz and many others' goal to develop and redefine the standards of photography. It is an exhibit about changing perspective and how even the most mundane of subjects can be great when seen through, literally, a different lens.

"*Camera Work: Stieglitz, Steichen, Strand and Company*" will be on display at the Mahaney Center for the Arts until Oct. 28.

ONE LIFE LEFT

BY SANTIAGO AZPURUA-BORRAS

During the previous generation of consoles, there were two games in the True Crime series. Essentially, these games were Grand Theft Auto clones that actually had somewhat decent gameplay. Even the second game allowed one to take up the mantle of Snoop Dogg himself, and everyone's had that fantasy at least once in his or her lifetime, right? The short-lived series was interesting, but forgettable.

Skip to the current generation and we are given Sleeping Dogs, the so-called spiritual successor to the True Crime games.

Sleeping Dogs puts you into the role Wei Shen, a Chinese-born undercover cop and loose cannon who plays by his own rules. While I would consider this half-joking description accurate, it really is only part of Wei's personality. He is actually a really likeable guy — when he's not slaughtering people in the name of keeping his cover up of course. After a kerfuffle with some gangs in San Francisco, Wei is transferred back to Hong Kong to infiltrate one of the Triad gangs and try to bring them to justice.

Now, being an undercover cop is tricky business and the game reflects that. During missions that progress the story, Wei is given two scores to keep track of: his "cop" score and his "triad" score.

The cop score starts at its maximum and goes down when Wei does things that would be less than savory in the eyes of the

law: stealing cars, shooting civilians, running over civilians, property damage and other such things. On the other extreme of the moral spectrum, there's the triad score, which starts out empty and quickly fills up as you shoot guys or use the environment to brutally take out rival gangster. The game once let me push a guy into a box of swordfish heads, where he promptly got impaled on them, much to my slightly amused confusion.

By the end of each mission, both scores are tallied and you gain the appropriate experience. Both the cop and triad have unique abilities to level up, but some of them seem really out of place. A prime example of this is the Jimmy, one of the first available cop upgrades to Wei, which allows him to break into cars without the alarm going off. Thanks, police department!

Strangely enough, these two scores are only tallied during story missions. Accidentally run some civilians over while trying to jump a ramp? No punishment. These two extremes in game environment and design seem really flawed and almost make the more serious parts of the game seem satirical.

The driving in the game is tight, feels

intuitive and has developed a control scheme in such a manner that driving and shooting at the same time physically feasible, unlike Grand Theft Auto 4's "oh-God-I-need-three-hands-to-do-this"-setup. However, the lack of any actual licensed vehicles took me out of the experience, once I stepped back into the car I no longer cared.

The soundtrack in this game is incredible. All are licensed artists, ranging from classical music to popular Chinese pop, and even electronic dance music. It's very easy to want to take the scenic route while heading to your objectives just to get a chance to listen to more of the music, which is a shame because the story is actually really interesting.

You watch first-hand as Wei slowly becomes indoctrinated by the Triads. Sure, they're gun-runners, murderers, thieves and drug dealers, but throughout the course of the game, they provide Wei something that he has never found before: a family. The same effect happens on the player. You begin to establish emotional connections to the characters, despite the fact that none of them are good people and should probably be arrested.

The biggest flaw of the game's story is the pacing; it really doesn't know where

it's going sometimes. Prime examples are the "girlfriend" missions, short side quests that have Wei going on dates with various characters in the game. After a mission that involves singing Karaoke, the girl automatically assumes you're engaged (something that Wei seems keen on, but the game never bothers to explain this to the player) which leads to some hilariously ridiculous conversations between characters.

The firearms in this game also look like they were designed by 12-year-olds who were given nothing but Red Bull and an endless stream of Nerf gun commercials. The game also makes a lot of weird decisions when it comes to player freedom. There's something morbidly hilarious about riding a motorcycle into a night club, terrorizing the patrons and then wheeling on into the VIP area at full speed, crashing, surviving, getting right back up, stealing the karaoke machine and beginning a mini-game where Wei will sing songs such as "Girls Just Want to Have Fun" as all the people you've just traumatized walk in and begin to awkwardly dance around you.

Overall, Sleeping Dogs is a breath of fresh air considering it is not only an incredibly competent GTA clone, but better than GTA, in my opinion. However, the technical hiccups, awkward story pacing and wacky physics drag this game down a bit.

CAPITOL STEPS

FALL FAMILY
WEEKEND
MEAD CHAPEL
\$15 FOR STUDENTS

SYMPHONY OF WHALES

SUNDAY
10/21
MCFA
\$8 FOR STUDENTS

FUN.

FRIDAY
11/2
NELSON ARENA
TICKETS AVAILABLE 10/1

BUS TICKETS

BREAK BUSES
NYC, BOSTON
BURLINGTON
(AIRPORT, BUS STATION)

New science data librarian blends info and academics

By Deirdre Sackett

This fall, the James I. and Carol Aymar Armstrong Science Library has a friendly new face working behind the circulation desk. Wendy Shook, the library's new science data librarian, replaced the former librarian, Carrie Macfarlane, in early August this year. Macfarlane is now the Head of Research and Instruction at the Davis Family Library.

Shook boasts an extensive science background. Prior to coming to the College, Shook served as a volunteer librarian at the Hawai'i Academy of Arts and Science, and she was also a data analysis specialist at the Association of Universities for Research in Astronomy's Gemini Observatory.

She holds a Master of Information Studies degree from Charles Stuart University in Australia, and a Bachelor of Science in the Physics Cooperative Program, from University of Victoria.

Indeed, Shook's prior experience in

the sciences more than qualifies her as a respectable and knowledgeable science data librarian. For Shook, the transition that took place between her science-intensive background and working in information services was fluid.

"My background is in physics and astronomy," said Shook. "After my BSc, I worked at astronomical observatories in Arizona and Hawaii, supporting not only telescope and instrumentation operations but also data reduction, analysis and archiving. The latter led, almost by natural progression, to information studies, and in 2011 I graduated with an Management Information System from Charles Stuart University in New South Wales, Australia."

Shook commented on the nature of her rather unique position, emphasizing the vast range of information available to both herself as a librarian, as well as to the general public.

"Academic librarianship is a surprisingly dynamic and diverse career, spanning everything from researching an-

cient texts to developing research apps," Shook said. "Yet it is, and always has been, all about connecting people to the information they need."

On the topic of information processing and connection, Shook also highlighted the differences between the culturally-traditional view of an academic librarian with that of a science data librarian.

"More particularly, a science data librarian blends academic librarianship with liaison activities within the sciences, and assistance with data management," she said.

Despite relocating from faraway places (and vastly warmer climates), Shook's first few months at the College have proved quite successful.

"As a librarian with a science background, Middlebury's thriving intellectual, artistic and environmentally responsible community is irresistible," she said.

"As a family, relocating from the tropics to Vermont is a grand adventure."



COURTESY

Armstrong Library's new science data librarian Wendy Shook hails from a physics and astronomy background. She is excited to bring her knowledge to the field of undergraduate education.

Student playwright earns theater honors

By Alexandra Kennedy

During this past summer's Master of Fine Arts Playwrights' Workshop at the Kennedy Center, Daniel Sauermilch '13 graced the Washington, D.C. stage with a reading of his original play, *The Igloo Settlement*. Put on by the National New Play Network, the MFA Playwrights' Workshop has been featuring the works of graduate student writers since 1998. Gregg Henry, the co-manager and artistic director of the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF), invited Sauermilch to participate as an undergraduate after seeing Sauermilch's one-act *The Rwandans' Visit*, which won the John Caudle Award for Outstanding Short Play at the KCACTF in 2011, and which was also a semi-finalist for the Princess Grace Foundation Playwriting Grant.

"The first time [at the Kennedy Center] was different in the fact that it was a — I hate for it to sound like this — but just logically, it was a competition, because there were four plays in consideration for the top prize," said Sauermilch. "So there was that to factor in. I wasn't nervous because I was so happy with the idea of just having it read. I wasn't nervous about having winning or losing. You're winning if you're read there."

Sauermilch explained how he got to participate in such a prestigious playwriting event.

"The artistic director of that festival, Gregg Henry, invited me to come back and participate with whatever play that I wanted to write for that next summer as an eighth play," said Sauermilch. "They usually select plays from an open submission process and it's all graduate students who submit from all over the place. And they usually have an eighth play that's not done from that submission process and is invited."

The invitation was an honor — it is no small feat for an undergraduate playwright to attend such a workshop. Sauermilch noted that gaining such recognition at a young age is a rare occurrence for a playwright.

"For people to take your work seriously as a young playwright in a world where a young playwright could be in their 30s and 40s — to be 21 and have people take you seriously — and to think you have something to say and something to offer to the American theater[is] a very special and a very humbling thing," he said.

Sauermilch's path to playwriting began at a young age. And yet, even then, he demonstrated a great degree of passion for and dedication to the craft.

"I started playwriting at fourteen in a free afterschool workshop every week for two hours at the Manhattan Theatre Club," Sauermilch said. "The goal was that you wrote a play that would then be read by Equity actors at MTC's studios, which was huge ... David Auburn [the Tony Award and Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright of *Proof*] taught for a couple semesters. That's where it started."

Upon his arrival at the College, Sauermilch continued his playwriting education in Visiting Professor of Theater Dana Yeaton's "Playwriting I" course. Sauermilch emphasized the impact of that class, and highly recommended it to other students interested in playwriting.

"People should take the playwriting class here because [Yeaton] is a fabulous professor and because he is a nurturer," he said. "His classes here first made me realize that I had something that I wanted to say and something that people wanted to listen to."

Sauermilch's *The Rwandans' Visit* is a sharp and deftly constructed piece dealing with issues of identity, race, nationality and class in Park Slope, Brooklyn, where Sauermilch grew up. Two incredibly dysfunctional couples square off over a chair from Africa, trips to Vietnam and Valium, as they deflect from the issue at hand: the crisis of the disappearance of the Rwandan exchange students they have been hosting.

The result is a comedic and poignant piece about the nature of authenticity, compassion and concern in an age rife with the complications that arise from issues such as materialism and globalization.



COURTESY

Daniel Sauermilch '13 performed his play, *The Igloo Settlement* in Washington, D.C.

THIS WEEK ON WRMC 91.1 FM

PUNK N' FUNK WITH HALLEY LAMBERSON, ELLIE OAKLEY AND BECCA ROE

Get ready for Punk n Funk: bring your dancing shoes and your groove to bust a move.
FRIDAY 12:30 - 2 P.M.

S&M: SPORTS AND METEOROLOGY WITH DELLA CUMMINGS

Two weeks til post-season baseball ... where's your info coming from?
THURSDAY 8 - 9 A.M.

ONCE IN A LIFETIME WITH DYLAN REDFORD, MOSS TURPAN

Once in a Lifetime combines music and narrative journalism to explore the many different kinds of relationships people in the Middlebury community have developed with music throughout their lives. Each week, the show features a different guest who shares their own special experiences with music and joins the DJs in contemplating the fascinating bond between music and memory in the contemporary world.

SUNDAY 4 - 6 P.M.

ROADTRIP RADIO WITH BECKY GOODMAN, SALLY CARUSO AND PATRICK FREEMAN

Have you always wanted to take a trip across the U.S.? Well now you can: with your ears! Tune in to Roadtrip Radio, where we'll take you on a sonorous journey across good ol' America. Featuring local and classic music from sea to shining sea, as well as a weekly Vermont spotlight.
SATURDAY 12:30 - 2 P.M.

City. Set in Bucks County, Penn. over the Christmas holidays, the play deals with hedge fund manager Christine and her husband Peter — a shy biologist arranging the transport of a giraffe from a zoo in Texas to a self-proclaimed "giraffe sanctuary" in New Mexico. All the while, complexities abound when Christine and Peter's housekeeper Brenda's life begins to intersect with their own, and questions of the land, ownership and power are asked as an Occupy-esque movement takes shape in Christine and Peter's front yard.

Just as the play had a profound impact upon the audience and critics, the workshop experience had a profound impact on Sauermilch, and also had an effect on the piece itself.

"We would meet as a creative team; the dramaturg, the director and I would meet on a one-to-one basis to make the play the best that it could be in the amount of time that we had," he said.

To that end, Sauermilch experienced a sense of kinship with his creative team and fellow writers, which taught Sauermilch about the nature of playwriting in a collaborative setting.

"First and foremost it taught me that being a playwright does not have to be a solitary practice, a solitary occupation," he said. "When you're paired together with people who genuinely believe in the work, you can give them the reigns and trust them in order to make it the best. It's much more about having an affinity with one another. It's one thing to be a writer in any respect, write your stuff, and then stick it in a drawer. And then it's another thing to have your stuff read and produced. And that's fantastic. But then it's an entirely different thing to work in a collaborative environment in which

you're all personally invested in making something better and making good art. And that's probably the best of all three."

In his pursuit of new avenues of writing, Sauermilch has begun to explore the world of screenwriting.

"I just wrote a short film script," he said. "And in the spirit of collaboration I worked with Michaela Lieberman '10.5' and with my brother, who directed it."

Also on the horizon for Sauermilch this year is a fully realized production of *The Igloo Settlement* in the College's own Hepburn Zoo. He noted that he will bring the collaborative nature of the MFA Playwrights' Workshop back to the College's production.

"This play will be my senior work in the spring directed by Paula Bogutyn '13.5, and will be our joint thesis," he said. "Even though it's our senior work, and we're very protective of it ... when we work on it, it will be a collaborative effort. Actors will bring in their thoughts. I even want for us as a group to do dramaturgical work, to reshape things, to understand how the set informs the dynamics of this play. It won't just be a production dictated by playwright and director but dictated by all our individual perspectives and voices that we're bringing to the table. And we also need actors."

Whether at the Kennedy Center or the Kevin P. Mahaney '84 Center for the Arts, Sauermilch remains focused on the craft of playwriting, for which he demonstrates not only passion, but talent as well. He plans to work on his thesis this year, and continue to develop his passion after graduation.

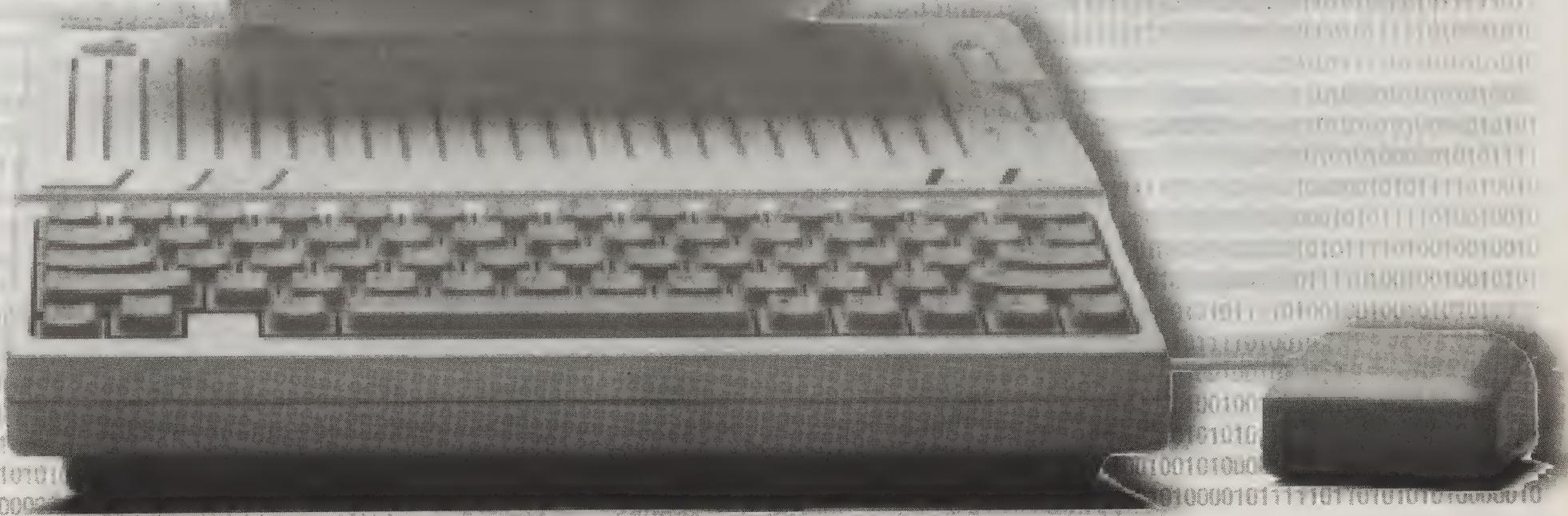
"Post Middlebury, I'll just keep writing," he said.

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The Middlebury Campus



PANTHER PROFILE

Interviews with Middlebury's Student Athletes

By Christine Schozer

1

What are your goals for this season?

The thing always missing from my game is that I'm not a scorer; I'm always the assister, which I'm totally cool [with], but it would be nice to put some [shots] away. My coach said one year you'll just find the goal and then all of a sudden you just know how to do it. So I'm hoping that will be this year.

2

What was your first memory of the sport?

In second grade, all my friends were on the other team. There was a minute left in the game and we were losing. I really wanted to win, so I threw the ball in to myself and dribbled and scored, but they wouldn't give me the point and I was really upset we lost. They said, "you can't do that!" I was a very competitive little child.

3

What is your most recent stand out memory?

Definitely my freshman year: with nine minutes to go, we were [down by three] against Amherst and we came back [and] scored three [goals]. I remember [in] the first goal we scored I had the assist. Maddy Boston '13 hit me this ball really quick, I crossed it and she scored. Then we went into overtime and we won and it was so freaking exciting. Our season hadn't been going well [before] then. I think if we had lost this game our season would have gone a completely different way, but luckily we came back and we won. The Amherst goalie stormed off like, "this is the worst game I've even been apart of." We were so happy.

4

What has been a pivotal moment in your career so far?

5

How has life as an athlete helped you as a student?

6

Do you still love the sport?

Julie Favorito '14 (Winchester, Mass.), a junior on the Middlebury women's soccer team who received NESCAC and All New England first team honors last season, is determined to make this season stand out. Three-time member of the First Team All-State in high school, Favorito brought her game to Middlebury. She began as a first-year playing inside midfielder, but has since moved outside. Favorito, a geology major and sociology minor, knows what it takes to be successful on and off the field.



I started my first game and got absolutely rocked at Tufts. After that I started not playing as much. I went to my coach and said, "I know you can't [put] me on the field — I'm not playing well — but I think I can do well. I'm wondering what you think is the problem." He said everyone goes through this transition, "you'll do fine — there's one game where you're just gonna get it." The Amherst game was when I got it and when I really came into the outside position and sort of started taking people on one-on-one. So that was a moment where I was like, "Okay, cool, I can play college soccer."

Definitely time management. I don't do well when I [have a lot of free time]. In the spring I'm more stressed out because [I] have all this time and [I'm] just like, "I'll do [my work] some other time." But in season when you have to do work, you're in go-go mode — you don't even think about it. Even in those little hours when people [think they] won't be able to get anything done, athletes pick up a book. Like on the bus, everyone's reading — you're doing whatever you can. I think it helps exponentially to be in season.

I love it even more in college because I think we play a [much] nicer style. That's why I wanted to come to Middlebury — because I loved the coach and I loved how he wants us to play. [Our system is] modeled after Barcelona, which is absolutely awesome. I think sports really help academics — I like it.

MCRC opens season with a win over UMASS-Amherst

By Owen Teach

Following two promising performances at the preseason Granite Cup, featuring a close 10-8 loss to traditional rugby powerhouse Dartmouth, the Middlebury College Rugby Club (MCRC) bested UMASS-Amherst 33-31 this past Saturday, Sept. 15, taking an important step towards qualifying for Nationals this coming spring.

The back-and-forth contest against UMASS featured tries by scrumhalf Alec Mackenzie '15, prop Mike Wysota '14 and a hat trick from fullback Allan Stafford '13.5. The game carried extra significance as the Panthers lost the same game last fall by three points, and later failed to advance to the national tournament in the spring.

In the fall of 2011, the Panthers kicked off the season in largely uncharted territory. After enjoying a run of success in the New England Division II Collegiate Rugby League that saw the team fall just short of a national championship against the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater during the previous spring, the MCRC battled through the 2011-12 campaign to establish itself against stronger competition in the team's first season in Division I-AA.

This fall, however, the team has a rigorous preseason camp under its belt and is already getting the results to prove that the MCRC

can contend in Division I-AA.

"For us to go out against UMASS and get this result is an incredibly promising sign for this team," said Stafford. "Given that we lost a close game to them last year, it shows that we can win close games and is a big confidence boost going forward."

Forwards captain Ben Stasiuk '13.5 echoed this sentiment with growing confidence.

"Within any transitory period, you have to work out some kinks," said Stasiuk. "After being in Division 1 for a year, we have now broken the ice and know that we can take care of business against bigger opponents. We have certainly shown this in our games against UMASS and Dartmouth to start the year."

From a personnel perspective, the MCRC is looking to add several players to its "A-side" from an unproven, but promising crop of first-year players. Laird Silsby '15 also figures to play an important role as the starting 8-man, while Brian Sirkia '12.5 is entering his third year as captain and will provide solid leadership for the team. Dylan Whitaker '13, Stasiuk and Stafford round out a formidable line-up.

The foundation of the season, however was laid during the preseason, when the Panthers traveled to Dartmouth to take on the Big Green. With both teams deadlocked

at 3-3 for most of the contest, Stafford scored a try with four minutes remaining to put Middlebury ahead 8-3.

The Panthers then missed the kick conversion, which proved to be costly as Dartmouth scored with no time remaining and made the kick to pull ahead 10-8.

There were some positives to be taken from the loss as the MCRC proved it could hang with the best teams in the country. Furthermore, the Panthers recovered well later in the tournament, burying a weaker University of New Hampshire side by a score of 48-0.

"Even without a victory against Dartmouth, it was a solid performance and a game that we should have won," said Stafford.

Due to a feeling of chemistry among the side, and MCRC figures to take some large steps in D1-AA this year.

"Last year's squad wasn't as cohesive as this year's will be," said Stasiuk. "Team chemistry is skyrocketing and leaders are stepping up."

The MCRC will face defending conference champion Northeastern at home this Saturday, Sept. 22, in a game that likely will play a large part in the Panthers march towards nationals in the spring.

The Huskies defeated the Panthers last October by a score of 34-3.

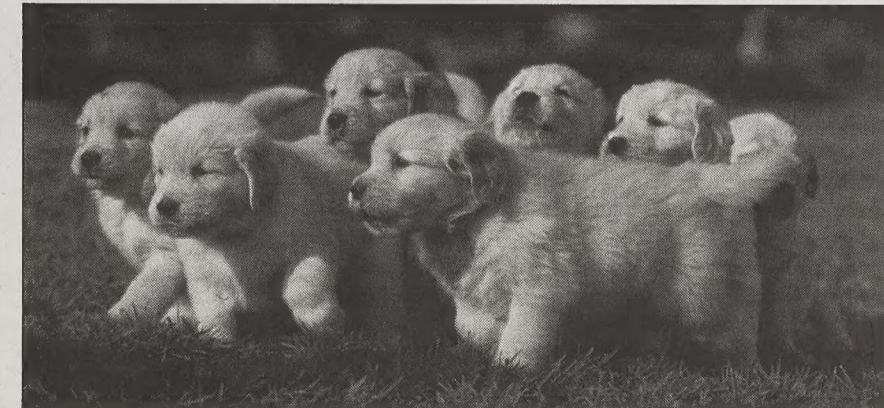


FILE PHOTO
Captain Brian Sirkia '12.5 dodges by a defender to propel MCRC to their first win.

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THE MIDDLEBURY GREAT GR8 EIGHT

RANKING	TEAM	Owen's Opinions
1	FIELD HOCKEY	Number two in the nation, number one in our poll.
2	WOMEN'S SOCCER	Haven't allowed a goal in three games, no signs of slowing down.
3	MEN'S RUGBY	The win over UMASS-Amherst keeps the hope of Nationals alive.
4	MEN'S SOCCER	Hajizadeh. Not sure what it is, but it's working.
5	CROSS COUNTRY	Big showing at Aldrich for both squads with top-10 sweeps.
6	WOMEN'S GOLF	Two strong tournament showings have them swinging their way into our hearts.
7	VOLLEYBALL	Another loss at Conn. Coll. causes a slight drop, but no need to be concerned.
8	FOOTBALL	Holding pat at 0-0, but with a big test on Saturday.

Men's and women's golf boast top-three tournament finishes

By Christine Schozer

This women's golf team finished second behind Williams at the New York University invitational this past weekend at the par-72 Pelham Bay Golf Course in Bronx, NY. Following last week's win at the St. Lawrence Invitational held Sept. 8-9, the women completed their second consecutive strong performance in as many weeks.

The tournament at St. Lawrence, in which the women bested second-place Ithaca College by seven strokes, allowed low-scorers Keely Levins '13 (76), Jordan Glatt '15 (77) and Michelle Peng '15 (78) to carry momentum into Pelham Bay this past weekend.

Though Middlebury sat in fourth place after Saturday's rounds were finished, improved scores on Sunday helped solidify the team's second place finish ahead of Amherst and Cortland.

"We never played the two courses we faced this weekend, which was tough," said team captain Levins. "It's never easy to play a course blind. Peng's 36 on the back nine was huge for her. She birdied 12 and 13, [which] was a complete turn around from yesterday."

Levins, one of just two seniors on the team, led the Panthers with a third place finish overall with 154 total strokes. Glatt (160), Peng (161) and Caroline Kenter '14 (165) followed their captain in 10th, 12th and 18th place, respectively. Monica Chow '16 shot a 170 in her

Middlebury debut, good for 32nd place — an impressive feat in a field of nearly 70 competitors.

"We know we're all capable of better scores, and hopefully the good moments from this weekend will turn into good collective rounds down the road," Levins said.

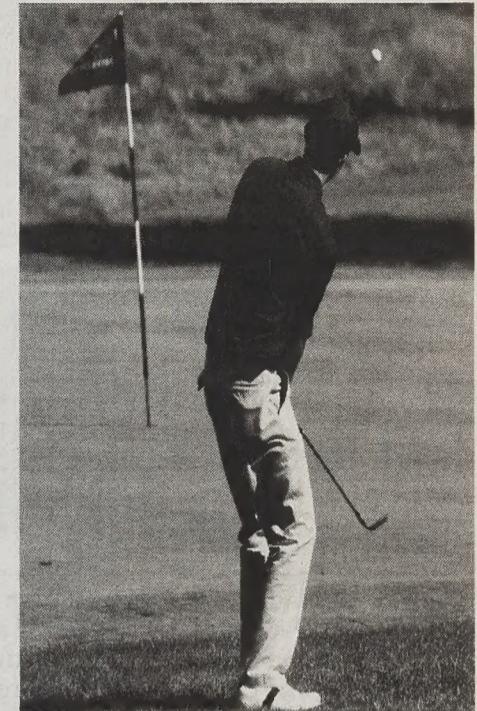
The women will have another shot at Williams this weekend at Mt. Holyoke.

Back home at the Ralph Mhyre Golf Course, the Panther men shot their way to a third place finish in the Duke Nelson Tournament, matching their finish in the St. Lawrence Invitational on Sept. 8-9.

Rob Donahoe '14 shot a 73 on Sunday to finish with 152 total strokes and tied for seventh place overall with teammate Chris Atwood '14 as both golfers improved on their ninth-place tie in the St. Lawrence Invitational. Eric Laorr '15 was one shot off their pace, finishing the tournament tied for 12th place with 153 strokes. Captain Billy Prince '13 and Charlie Garcia '15 rounded out the group, meanwhile, with a pair of 163s.

"The course and conditions made for a tough test, but we battled well," said Prince. "Though we all could have shaved a few strokes out there, I don't think our performance is anything to hang our heads at. We will build on this going forward."

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute won the tournament with 607 total strokes, completing a stunning 15-stroke



FILE PHOTO
The men's golf team finished with their second consecutive third place finish.

comeback on day two to shoot its way back to the top of the leader board from a sixth place tie on day one. Skidmore followed closely behind with 613 team strokes while Middlebury (618) snuck its way into third, finishing one stroke better than fourth place Williams.

The men's team travels this weekend to Williams.

Volleyball splits weekend series with NESCAC opponents

By Damon Hatheway

The Middlebury volleyball team began conference play last weekend with a split result. The Panthers shut out Wesleyan for their fifth consecutive win on Saturday, Sept. 14 before falling to Connecticut College the next day. The Panthers played two tight games; six of the team's eight sets were determined by two points. In the NESCAC opener at Wesleyan, Middlebury won three straight sets by two points, clipping the Cardinals 27-25, 25-23, 29-27.

"We've been talking all season about being aggressive, even in those crucial points, and we really carried that out against Wesleyan," said tri-captain Madeline Firestone '13. "Even when we were down in the match there was never any hesitation. During those points we focused on winning the game ourselves, rather than waiting for [them] to make a mistake."

After blowing a 23-16 lead, the Panthers found themselves on the wrong

end of set point, trailing 25-24 following a 7-1 Wesleyan run. Middlebury rallied back, winning each of the next three points to take the first set 27-25. The visitors finished the set in emphatic form, taking the lead with a service ace from senior Julia Gibbs '13 and ending the set with a kill from outside hitter Meg Anderson '14.

In the second set Middlebury yet again built a seven-point lead only to see it dwindle as the Cardinals scratched and clawed their way back into the set, cutting the Panthers lead to one at 24-23. This time it was Firestone '13 who halted the rally, closing out the set with a kill of her own.

The Cardinals showed signs of forcing a fourth set, jumping out to a 17-11 lead — their largest of the game — in the third set. The Panthers responded with a 12-6 run, tying the game at 23 and, after the Cardinals fought off two game points, Middlebury finally sealed it on a kill from Amy Hart '14.

"[The win] was a total team effort," Firestone said, "but [the] performances by Meg Anderson and Amy Hart really made a difference."

The two juniors led the team with 10 kills apiece, leading the Panthers to victory and a 5-1 season record.

The Panthers were not so fortunate in the second game of the weekend, falling in five sets to Conn. College. Just three points separated the teams over five back-and-forth sets, with Middlebury finally falling 15-13 in the fifth set.

The Panthers were led by Hart and Megan Jarchow '14, who combined for 35 total kills. Gibbs, meanwhile, racked up 54 assists and 19 digs from her setter position and tri-captain libero, Caitlin Barrett '13 recorded 32 digs.

Middlebury won the opening set 29-27, extending the team's streak of sets won by two points to four and giving the Panthers the early advantage in the game. The Camels won each of the next two sets, 25-23 and 25-18, respectively,

before Middlebury drew level with a 25-19 fourth set victory, forcing a decisive fifth set.

Here, the Panthers fell just short of their sixth straight victory and a 2-0 start in conference play.

"As in any fifth set of a NESCAC game, the atmosphere was definitely intense," Firestone said. "However, we didn't lose our cool and went point for point with Conn. It was an incredibly competitive match and in the end it just came down to the little things."

Firestone and company travel to New London, Conn. this Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 21-22, for the Coast Guard Invitational, a brief pause in the NESCAC schedule before they resume conference competition again next week with home games against Williams, Colby and Bates.

"We know we can win close games," said the senior mid-hitter from Solvang, Calif., "but we also know this year especially, every conference game is going to be incredibly competitive."

Alvand Hajizadeh '13 spurs winning streak

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

with Martin as well.

"Putting Batista in the back gives us a lot of pace both in the defense and also getting forward; the kid can run all day," he said. "Abdu-Glass also has been playing really well, stepping up to fill the big shoes of Tim Cahill '12 and developing the same important presence that a goalie needs."

The news was not all good for the Panthers, however, as they were dealt another tough blow with the injury of Sammie Redmond '15 against Plymouth State.

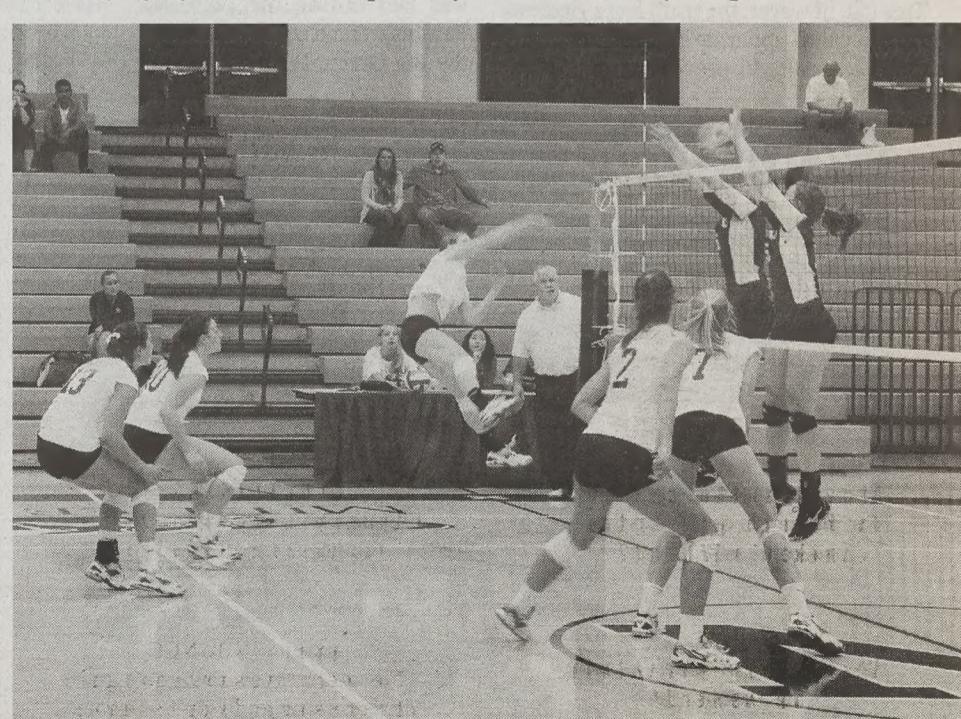
"Injuries are a really tough part of the game, especially with such a short season," Martin said. "With our depth on the bench, however, we should be alright and we need to get behind Sammie and Jon [Portman '13] to make sure they are back on the field as soon

as possible."

Another subplot to the week was that the Norwich coaching staff featured the second visiting head coach, Kyle Dezotell '03, (after Josh Shapiro '97, now coaching at Tufts) to have previously played under Saward here at Middlebury. The other was Joseph Shapiro '97, now coaching a Tufts team that sits at 3-0 overall after wins against Wesleyan and Plymouth State this past week, while Norwich is 4-2.

"Probably of all the things I'm most proud of is that some of these guys want to go ahead and have a go at this profession," said Saward.

The 3-1 Panthers have a pair of home NESCAC games on the men's soccer turf this weekend. Middlebury faces Bowdoin on Saturday, followed by the Lord Jeffs of Amherst on Sunday.



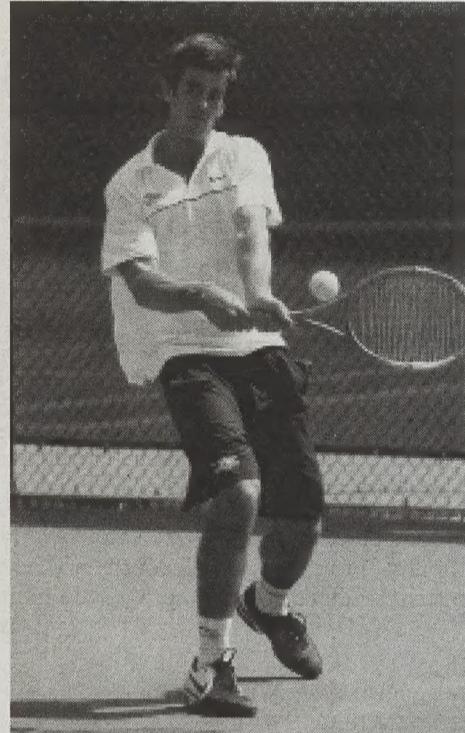
Outside hitter Amy Hart '14 led the team with a combined 28 kills in the Panthers' two games over the weekend, adding the game-winning ace against Wesleyan as well.

Bright future ahead for men's tennis team

By Tom Clayton

The last matches of the Middlebury Invitational men's tennis tournament concluded Sunday, Sept. 16, although the tournament is not technically over. The two finalists in "A" bracket singles play, Rob Crampton and Matt Bettles, both visiting from Bates, will play for the title this weekend back at their home courts.

Still, as the Proctor courts emptied late



FILE PHOTO

Spencer Lunghino '13 is one of just three seniors on a young and talented team.

Sunday afternoon, the Middlebury men's tennis program left galvanized by the weekend's matches, and by a glimpse at the competition that the season holds in store.

"Bates looked extremely strong, as did Skidmore, Tufts, Trinity and Brandeis," said coach Bob Hansen. "The NESCAC keeps getting better, which will only serve to strengthen our program."

Crampton reached the semifinals in the NCAA tournament last year. But in a heavyweight semifinal match against recent Middlebury transfer Alex Johnston '14 on Sunday morning, he nearly met his match much earlier in the season. Johnston lost in a final set tie-break, 10-8.

"Obviously I am disappointed to have lost yesterday," said Johnston, "but the match gives me a lot of confidence knowing that I was two points away from beating one of the best Division III players in the nation without playing my best tennis."

A tall and powerful player with a big serve, Johnston is new to Division III tennis. But he is no stranger to the high level of competition, having played the past two seasons at Foothill College in the California Junior College league.

With the first set locked at three games apiece, Johnston agreed to replay a point he had won after Crampton contested a close line call. Crampton won the point, and won the set.

"Often times in matches without chair umpires and referees, there are a few close calls and it is natural for an opponent to question some of the close ones," Johnston said. "It wasn't out of line — just the nature of the sport."

PANTHER SCOREBOARD

FIELD HOCKEY vs. Colby

4-0 W

Lauren Greer '13 adds two more points to key an impressive shutout.

MEN'S SOCCER vs. Plymouth State

1-0 W

Alvand Hajizadeh '13 caps off an explosive week of scoring with third goal of the season.

WOMEN'S SOCCER vs. Colby

3-0 W

The women improve their undefeated, shutout start to three games.

VOLLEYBALL vs. Connecticut College

3-2 L

The Camels end volleyball's five-game winning streak.

RUGBY vs. UMASS-Amherst

33-31 W

MCRC starts its second season in D1-AA with a big win.

In matches spread across a series of courts, without official oversight, the players at the invitational policed themselves, and the tenor of the matches varied from court to court. On court one, in the Johnston-Crampton semifinal, both players competed for every available advantage, each in his own way.

"In no way did [line-calling] affect the outcome of the match," said Johnston.

After dropping the first set, the Leeds native rebounded on the strength of his serve and resilience from the baseline, winning the second set 6-4. In the tiebreak, a series of long points eventually fell in favor of Crampton, and the final match was sent back to Bates.

Meanwhile, two Middlebury first-years competed against one another in the finals of "C" bracket. Ari Smolyar '16, defeated Allen Jackson '16, 6-7 [5], 7-5, 10-4, in the all-Panther final, a strange but fitting introduction to tournament play on the Proctor courts.

"We play together everyday, and he's a

good friend of mine, so I knew that it would be a friendly match," said Smolyar. "We know each other's strengths and weaknesses so as much as it was a physical battle on the court, it was a mental one as well."

Quietly, another Middlebury first-year also made a statement. Jackson Frons '16 defeated Skidmore's top player, returning All-American Oliver Loutsenko, 7-5, 7-6 [5] in the first round of "A" flight play. Frons lost to the eventual finalist Bettles in the quarterfinals.

The tournament was a proving ground for a host of talented first-years and for the newcomer Johnston. These contributions promise to add considerable depth to a team already buttressed by strong and consistent play from Spencer Lunghino '13, Alec Parower '13 and Courtney Mountfield '14. While easily overlooked in individual events, depth is essential to a team's success in the spring dual match season.

"Some of our most experienced players are abroad," said coach Hansen, "but I am thrilled with where we are and where we are headed."

Cross country teams dominate field

By Tom Clayton

Middlebury men's and women's runners finished in stacks on top of the standings at the Aldrich Invitational this weekend. The race was the first and only to be run on the Panthers' home course.

The top six runners and 11 of the top 12 were from the number one ranked women's team, while the 10th-ranked men's team claimed the top 11 finishers.

Addie Tousley '13 paced the women, finishing the race with a time of 18:13, earning NESCAC Performer of the Week for her strong showing. Tousley finished 23 seconds ahead of tri-captain Katie

Rominger '14. Katie Carlson '15 rounded out the top three at 18:52.

On the men's side, co-captain Jack Davies '13, who was awarded last week's NESCAC Performer of the Week after blazing through the Dartmouth Invitational in 25:37, won the men's race by nine seconds, finishing in 25:54. Trailing Davies was fellow co-captain Patrick Hebble '13, who clocked in at 26:05, and who was followed closely by Nate Sans '14.

The Panthers dominated a field that included St. Michael's College, SUNY-Canton, Paul Smith's College, Johnson

State and Norwich University.

The double home victory comes a week after both the men and women finished at the bottom of their respective fields at Dartmouth.

"Even though our racing is still rusty, and we haven't started focusing on workouts designed to fine-tune our speed, both teams are capable of performing well right now because we have great bases after strong summers of training," Davies said.

This weekend the men and women travel to Williams for the Purple Valley Classic.

BY THE NUMBERS

11

The number of Middlebury finishers in top 12 of the women's and men's cross country tournament at the Aldrich Invitational.

17

The number of points scored by Alvand Hajizadeh '13 in his last three games.

7

The number of points by Lauren Greer '13 in her first three field hockey games this season.

4

The number of turnovers by the Broncos in the first quarter of Monday Night Football this past week. The most in a first quarter since 2002.

0

The number of goals allowed by the women's soccer team in three games so far this season.

2

The number of goals scored by Alvand Hajizadeh '13 in his first three games this season.

1

The number of goals by Lauren Greer '13 in her first three field hockey games this season.

4

The number of goals allowed by the women's soccer team in three games so far this season.

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The number of goals allowed by the women's soccer team in three games so far this season.

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The number of goals scored by Alvand Hajizadeh '13 in his first three games this season.

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0

The number of goals allowed by the women's soccer team in three games so far this season.

1

The number of goals scored by Alvand Hajiz

Men's soccer wins third straight game

By Owen Teach

Following a listless 2-0 loss in its opener against Tufts, the men's soccer team was in search of help on both sides of the ball. As head coach Dave Saward said after the loss, the team needed "that magical man to put balls in the net."

Middlebury has found that man in tri-captain Alvand Hajizadeh '13.

The senior from Williamstown, Mass., who was held to just one shot against Tufts, propelled the Middlebury offense to three straight victories this past week with involvement in all four Panther goals.

Hajizadeh scored his first career goal seven minutes into the contest against in-state foe Norwich on Sept. 11, before adding an assist on Graham Knisley's '14 goal in the 87th minute to cap a 2-0 victory. In overtime on Saturday in Waterville, Maine, Hajizadeh

"His increased output will not change our game plan at all, but it will certainly change how our opponents scout our team."

DAVE SAWARD
HEAD MEN'S SOCCER COACH

Matt Martin '12.5. "He's playing really well up front and we all think three game-winning goals in a row deserves a NESCAC Player of the Week."

League officials agreed with Martin in this respect, as Hajizadeh received the first Player of the Week award given

then struck again in the 93rd minute to give the Panthers a 1-0 win over Colby, a team the Panthers have not beaten in four years. He then capped off his weekend with Middlebury's lone goal in the 43rd minute against Plymouth State on Sunday for another 1-0 victory.

Hajizadeh, who had only two assists in a Panther uniform prior to this season, has already surpassed his career-scoring total with his four points over the weekend.

[Hajizadeh] has really stepped up and carried the team with great performances," said teammate

to a Panther this season.

Hajizadeh's emergence will also alter the game from a strategy perspective.

"His increased output will not change our game plan at all, but it will certainly change how our opponents scout our team," Saward said. "They will now prepare themselves a little more for number nine [Hajizadeh],

which will open up chances for other guys to contribute as well."

Just as Hajizadeh's presence in the lineup energized the front end, Saward made several changes in back that solidified a defense that did not allow a goal in three games. Adam Batista '14 moved from wing midfielder to right back, while

Willie Gevertz '14 also provided keeper Zach Abdu-Glass '13 with more structure in the defensive third.

"They [Batista and Gevertz] have had a big influence in shoring up the back, while Zach has done all that has been asked of him in the net," said Saward.

The changes resonated well
SEE ALVAND, PAGE 22



Adam Batista '14 clears the lines in a 2-0 victory against Norwich last Tuesday, Sept. 11. Middlebury's defense helped anchor the team with three consecutive clean sheets this past week.

JESSICA MUNYON

Field hockey improves to 3-0 in early season action

By Fritz Parker

The now second-ranked field hockey team went on the road to conference foe Colby this past Saturday, Sept. 15, and delivered a commanding defensive performance to notch a 4-0 victory over the Mules.

While the Panthers dominated the game out of the gate, they were not able to convert a goal for nearly 25 minutes of play. Catherine Fowler '15 finally found the cage for Middlebury, ripping an unassisted goal past the Colby keeper to give the Panthers the lead. Alyssa Dimaio '15 added an insurance goal two minutes later, off of a feed from captain Lauren Greer '13 on a penalty corner set, to give Middlebury a 2-0 edge going into halftime.

"We ran a different penalty corner from the usual," said Dimaio. "Lauren Greer got a strong shot off of the insert pass, and it squeaked behind the goalie. I had far post and was able to put it away."

The Panthers controlled the first half in nearly every statistical category, gaining huge advantages in shots and penalty corners while keeping the ball out of their own defensive zone.

The second half saw more of the same for Middlebury, as Madeleine Despins '15 notched a goal six minutes after the break to stretch the lead to three. Greer then added a score of her own, pushing her season



COURTESY OF BOB CLARKE
Tri-captain Lauren Greer '13 extended Middlebury's lead to 4-0 from the penalty spot. The Panthers' leading goal scorer calmly placed the ball in the upper right hand corner of the goal.

totals to six goals and 17 points through just three games, to give the Panthers their final 4-0 advantage.

By the final whistle, Middlebury had fired 36 shots on the Colby keeper, who recorded 16 saves in the loss. The Panthers surrendered just three shots and senior goalie Madeline Brooks '13 was needed for just one save en route to the shutout, a testament to defensive captain Margaret Souther '13 and the rest of the Middlebury defense, which kept the ball safely away from the cage for nearly the entire 70 minutes.

With the win, Middlebury moves to 3-0 overall and 2-0 in NESCAC play, while Colby falls to 0-2 with both losses coming against conference opponents. The Panthers host two NESCAC rivals this weekend on Saturday and Sunday as they take on Bowdoin and Amherst in a pair of matches that will likely determine the early favorites in both conference and national play.

"While we're excited about the 3-0 start, we're also aware that there is a long road ahead of us," said Dimaio. "This weekend is going to be very important for our goals going forward."

Women's soccer kicks off with four victories

By Alex Morris

In front of a crowd of nearly 200 people, the Middlebury women's soccer team continued its strong start to the season with a 3-0 win at Colby on Saturday, Sept. 15, earning the team's first win on the road. The team's second road win followed shortly after, when the Panthers won a dramatic overtime game at Plattsburgh State, Tuesday Sept. 18.

Middlebury has laid down a strong foundation with four wins in four chances and has yet to allow a goal two weeks into the campaign.

In the Saturday game at Colby, the Panthers took an early lead in the first half with a long-range effort from Rachel Madding '13.

Dominating the Mules in the first half, the side continued to command the pitch when first-year Hannah Robinson '16 added to the scoring, with an assist from Julie Favorito '14. Ali Omsberg '15 then finished off the game on a high note with a goal in the final 10 minutes, guiding the ball into the back of the net off of a smooth corner kick from Scarlett Kirk '14.

Following the game, co-captain Amy Schlüter '13 was pleased by the contributions from younger players.

"We're very excited about how many different players have scored," Schlüter said. "We think it's a testament to the depth of our team this year."

Throughout the young season the Middlebury women have outshined their opponents with overall shots, and a lopsided shot margin on Saturday again attested to the attacking prowess of the

Panthers, who had 11 shots on goal to Colby's four.

While the offense again proved clinical in front of the goal, Middlebury's defense denied Colby any chance of a comeback, stifling the Mules' forward play and helping goalkeeper Elizabeth Foody '14 tally another clean sheet.

Foody then added another shutout, her fourth in four games this season, in the Panthers' 1-0 win over Plattsburgh on Tuesday.

For the first time this season Middlebury was held without a goal in regular time. In the 100th minute of play, however, at the stroke of the end of the first half of overtime, Kirk found the back of the net off a feed from Favorito, ending the game.

"We were frustrated during the game about our inability to finish and our chances," said co-captain Colby Gibbs '13, "but we persisted and never gave up, working through pouring rain and high winds."

The team is determined to remain focused and grounded despite its undefeated start.

"We're really happy with the way we've begun the season," said co-captain Maddy Boston '13. "We're not focusing on being undefeated as much as we are on improving our game and prioritizing shutouts."

Head coach Peter Kim echoed his captains' sentiments.

"We will continue to unfurl our playing style week by week, while making sure that the players get enough technical repetitions so that they can treat the ball properly throughout each match," Kim said. "Most importantly, we're just looking to enjoy the game."

